Daily Report

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Polish Envoy on Progress at CSCE Meeting

LD190008 Warsaw PAP in English
2250 GMT 19 Mar 88

[By PAP correspondent Franciszek Malinowski]

[Text] Vienna, March 18—Head of the Polish delegation at the Vienna-86 CSCE Meeting Ambassador Wlodzimierz Konarski told a press conference here today that despite difficulties that the work of the meeting encounters, progress was made as confirmed by the reaching of agreement on the contents of more than a half of the many-page text of the final document.

Although the most difficult questions still remain to be solved, it is fully possible to work out compromise formulas and to successfully end the meeting's work in the summer of 1988 and next to start disarmament negotiations as part of the CSCE in early autumn, Poland's representative said.

Poland takes interest in the swift starting of these negotiations and working out disarmament agreements at these talks in the possibly short time, Konarski stressed. This goal will be served by Polish Disarmament concepts and proposals contained in the Jaruzelski Plan.

However, the Vienna meeting must prepare the final document that is the key to further development of cooperation as part of the CSCE. To make this task easier, greater activeness on the part of neutral and non-aligned states can prove to be necessary.

Answering journalists' questions, the head of the Polish delegation sized up progress made in military aspects of European security as significant one.

Further on Conference

AU211056 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German
19-20 Mar 88 p 2

[Text] Vienna—Yesterday at a press conference, Polish CSCE delegation head Ambassador Konarski painted a rather optimistic picture of the state of the negotiations at the Vienna CSCE follow-up meeting.

Agreement has been reached among the 35 participants on about 50 percent of the final document, even though not all of these texts have already been set down in their final form. Although the other 50 percent still contain some tough issues for negotiations, there are good chances that the Vienna meeting will be successfully concluded by summer. Konarski expects that the two security conferences that have to be approved by the Vienna CSCE and for which Austria has offered itself as a venue will be able to start their work this fall.

In a talk with journalists, Austria's CSCE delegation head Rudolf Torovsky agreed with Konarski's assessment on the potential conclusion of the conference, but at the same time he complained about the extremely sluggish course of the current round of negotiations that will conclude next week. Nevertheless, one has to note positively that none of the 35 delegations would be satisfied with a mediocre final document of the Vienna meeting, Torovsky said.

Torovsky also believes that international developments—such as the settlement of the Afghanistan conflict or the fourth summit meeting between Gorbachev and Reagan in Moscow scheduled for May—might give an important impetus to the Vienna follow-up meeting.

Civil Rights Activists Issue Appeal

AU211337 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1100 GMT 21 Mar 88

[Barbara Coudenhove-Kalergi report on joint appeal by civil rights activists from six East European countries issued in Vienna on 21 March; recorded statements by Miklos Haraszti in English with superimposed German translation, in quotation marks]

[Text] Only two civil rights activists from Hungary, among them the well-known writer Miklos Haraszti, were present today when the appeal was issued within the framework of the International Helsinki Federation. The other activists who had been invited were not able to attend. Petr Uhl from Charter 77, which also supports the appeal, sent a letter saying that today the rulers fear East-East contacts almost more than East-West contacts.

The joint appeal has been signed by 438 people from Poland, Hungary, the CSSR, the GDR, the Soviet Union, and Yugoslavia—many of them signed on behalf of larger organizations—including Andrey Sakharov, Adam Michnik, and Jiri Hajek. All of them not only consider this as pacifism for religious reasons, but above all as an act of European solidarity across alliance borders.

Miklos Haraszti substantiated the initiative:

"If I have to put it in one sentence, in Europe, and in particular in Communist Eastern Europe, people must no longer be imprisoned because of decisions dictated by their conscience or because they are of a different opinion. Conscientious objection is the last remaining, big, single source of imprisonment in the East."

The initiators demand that the issue be put on the agenda of the CSCE conference. Says Haraszti:

"I think that if there is one single issue that embodies the Helsinki spirit, it is conscientious objection, because it comprises both the aspect of human rights and the aspect of security. I think there is an imbalance in security, because the partner in the East punishes people for the alleged crime of not having wanted to look at the other part of Europe and the other nations of the world as enemies."

Over the past 2 decades, Eastern Europe has experienced two invasions, Haraszti said. After Hitler and Stalin it is important to affirm the right to say no, so that later there will not again be people who plead unjust orders. The appeal is directed to all of Europe.

At today's press conference a representative of the Hungarian Catholic basic group movement around the Piarist Priest Gyorgy Bulanyi also spoke. He demanded recognition for conscientious objection, not only by the state, but also by the official Catholic Church, which Bulanyi's people in Hungary criticize for its too close cooperation with the state. As of now, the appeal can also be signed by West European groups and individuals.

Marko To Lead Assembly Delegation to Turkey

AU182005 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] A delegation of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania led by Comrade Rita Marko, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, will shortly pay a visit to the Republic of Turkey at the invitation of the President of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey (Yumderen Adbolut).

Alia Greets Tunisian Leaders on National Day

AU192057 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 19 Mar 88

[Message from Ramiz Alia, chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, to Zine Abidine Ben Ali, President of the Republic of Tunisia]

[Text] On the occasion of your National Day, it is my pleasure, in the name of the Albanian people, the Presidium of the People's Assembly, and myself personally, to convey to you warm greetings and best wishes for the progress and happiness of the friendly Tunisian people.

May the friendly relations between our two countries develop continually to the mutual benefit of both our peoples.

Stefani, Isai at Security Forces Anniversary

AU192045 Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian 1900 GMT 19 Mar 88

[Excerpt] On the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the creation of the State Security Force, which was formed in conformity with the teachings of the party and of Comrade Enver Hoxha during the Antifascist National Liberation War, a thematic meeting was held this afternoon at the Officers Club of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The meeting was attended by veterans and cadres of the security forces, representatives from various institutions, and young people.

The meeting was also attended by Simon Stefani, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and secretary; Hekuran Isai, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and minister of internal affairs; Pirro Kondi, AWP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and Tirana District AWP Committee first secretary; and Kico Mustaqi, AWP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and chief of the General Staff; and others.

A speech was delivered on the occasion by Koco Orgocka, secretary of the Ministry of Internal Affairs AWP Committee. [passage omitted]

Economic Progress Report For 13-19 Mar

AU192105 [Editorial Report] Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian in its broadcasts 13-19 March carries the following economic performance reports (time and date of broadcast in parentheses):

Berat District—The 2-month export plan has been overfulfilled 0.3 percent. (1900 GMT 13 March)

Durres District—forty-eight collectives report having fulfilled their respective plans up to 15 March. (1900 GMT 18 March)

Elbasan District—The collectives of the "Steel of the Party" Combine have fulfilled their respective production plans for the 2-month period. (1900 GMT 13 March)

Fier District—The export plan up to 10 March has been exceeded by 400,000 leks. (1900 GMT 14 March)

Gjirokaster District—The general industrial production plan for the 2-month period has been overfulfilled 0.5 percent and the export plan for the same period has been overfulfilled 40 percent. (1900 GMT 15 March)

Kukes District—The overall industrial production plan up to 15 March has been overfulfilled by 5 percent. (1900 GMT 18 March)

Pogradec District—The general industrial production plan has been exceeded by 2.9 million leks for the period up to 15 March. (1430 GMT 19 March)

Vlore District—The industrial sector alone has overfulfilled the 2-month export plan by 460,000 leks. (1900 GMT 15 March)

Leaders Public Appearances 13-19 Mar

AU192103 [Editorial Report] Tirana Domestic Service in Albanian in its broadcasts 13-19 March reports the following public appearances of Albanian leaders (time and date of broadcast in parentheses):

Ramiz Alia, AWP Central Committee first secretary and chairman of the Presidium of the People's Assembly, received on 18 March the newly appointed ambassador of the Philippines, who presented his credentials. (1900 GMT 18 March)

Simon Stefani, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and secretary; Hekuran Isai, AWP Central Committee member and minister of internal affairs; Pirro Kondi, AWP Central Committee Politburo candidate member and Tirana District AWP Committee first secretary; and Kico Mustaqi, AWP Central Committee

Politburo candidate member and chief of the General Staff, attended on 19 March a meeting held in Tirana on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the creation of the State Security Force. (1900 GMT 19 March)

Manush Myftiu, AWP Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, paid respects at the Vietnamese Embassy on the death of Premier Pham Hung. (1900 GMT 15 March)

Todorov, Delegation Continue Visit to Japan
AU181839 Sofia BTA in English
1700 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Tokyo, March 18 (BTA corr.)—The Bulgarian parliamentary delegation headed by Mr Stanko Todorov, chairman of the National Assembly, which is currently visiting Japan, arrived in Hiroshima today.

At the meeting with Hiroshima's mayor, Mr Takeshi Araki, the common desire for peace was reiterated and the need of making all possible efforts for preventing any nuclear war was stressed. The two sides emphasised unanimously that this goal needs to broaden the cooperation and to deepen the understanding among all peoples in the world.

Nuclear war is unwinnable, said Mr Takeshi Araki, who is well known for his international anti-nuclear and anti-military activity. He assessed highly Bulgaria's peace-loving foreign policy and her willingness to turn the Balkans into a zone free of nuclear and chemical weapons.

The Bulgarian parliamentary delegation visited the cities of Nara, Ikoma and Osaka, where it held a number of talks and meetings. The Bulgarian guests visited the chief enterprises of the large "Matsushita Denki" company close to Osaka. There they were acquainted with the latest achievements and with the scientific research and development tendencies in the activity of the Japanese company in the sphere of electronics. The Bulgarian delegation had talks with representatives of the managerial board of the company on the possibilities for cooperation between "Matsushita" and Bulgarian enterprises, specializing in the same sphere.

Visit Positively Assessed
AU201809 Sofia BTA in English
1705 GMT 20 Mar 88

["Successful Visit of Bulgarian Delegation to Japan"—BTA headline]

[Text] Tokyo, March 20 (BTA corr.)—The Bulgarian parliamentary delegation, led by Mr Stanko Todorov, chairman of the National Assembly, completed its six-day visit here today which took place at the invitation of Japan's Diet.

The visit passed in the spirit of the traditionally friendly relations between Bulgaria and Japan. The delegation was received by Prime Minister Naboru Takeshita and had talks with the minister of foreign affairs and the minister of international trade and industry Mr Sosuke Uno and Mr Hajime Tamura. The talks confirmed the wish of the two countries to promote Bulgaro-Japanese relations in all spheres.

At meetings with members of the Diet and with the speakers of the two houses—Mr Masaaki Fijita and Mr Kenzaburo Hara, it was agreed to deepen contacts along parliamentary lines.

The Bulgarian delegation also met the management of the Federation of Japanese Economic Organizations, Keidanren, and discussed the possibilities for proceeding to more up-to-date forms of economic cooperation and for giving an impetus to the setting up of joint enterprises and firms in different branches of the economy.

The delegation also met leaders of local bodies of government and conferred with Mr Takeshi Araki, mayor of Hiroshima, on the common tasks in strengthening world peace and in averting a nuclear war.

The successful visit of the Bulgarian parliamentary delegation gave a new impetus to the further promotion of the friendly relations between Bulgaria and Japan. As was stressed at many of the meetings here, the promotion of bilateral cooperation is not only in the interest of the two peoples but also a contribution to enhancing understanding and world peace.

Declaration Against RSA 'Repressive Measures'
AU191305 Sofia BTA in English
2100 GMT 18 Mar 88

["For Durable Peace in the African South"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 18 (BTA)—The mass organizations in Bulgaria and the entire Bulgarian people are following with concern the escalation of the repressive measures of the regime in Pretoria against the democratic and anti-racist forces and resolutely condemn them. Reiterating their unflinching solidarity with fighters for human rights and freedoms in the Republic of South Africa they call on the progressive and democratic organizations and movements in the world to unite against racism and enhance their actions for its complete isolation, reads the declaration issued for publication here today by the National Council of the Fatherland Front, the Central Council of the Bulgarian Trade Unions, the Central Committee of the Dimitrov Young Communist League, the Committee of Bulgarian Women's Movement and the Committee for Solidarity With the Peoples of Asia and Africa.

The declaration is on the occasion of the recent decision of the South African authorities to ban the activity of 17 democratic mass organizations and movements, which is the latest act of violation and gross repression of the most elementary democratic freedoms and rights of the native African population of the Republic of South Africa. At the same time the authorities in the Republic of South Africa tolerate most openly the activity of ultra-rightist and neofascist organizations.

The actions of the authorities in the Republic of South Africa have in fact been patronized by the governments of the United States and Great Britain, which vetoed the latest draft resolution of the UN Security Council condemning the undertaken repressions and calling for imposing of obligatory and comprehensive economic sanctions against the Republic of South Africa, reads the declaration. It appeals to the entire world public to cooperate for the imposing of comprehensive and obligatory sanctions against the regime in Pretoria for the final elimination of apartheid, for the establishment of durable peace in the African South which will correspond to the vital interests of the peoples in that region of the world.

Cooperation Session Meets With British Firms

AU181302 Sofia BTA in English
1154 GMT 18 Mar 88

["Bulgaria, Britain: Active Economic Contacts"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 18 (BTA)—At the 16th session of the Bulgaro-British Commission for Industrial, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation, the British side was represented by firms such as Shell, Courtaulds, ICI, and the General Electric Company. Two long-term agreements were signed between the "Biotechnological and Chemical Industry" Association and ICI, and between the "Industry for Man" Association and Courtaulds.

The session paid special attention to the importance of the new forms for economic cooperation between firms and organizations of the two countries: the establishment of consortiums, joint investments, and the use of the possibilities offered by the duty-free zones established here along the Danube. The joint commission gave a positive assessment to the work of the electronization and informatics group set up last year. A subcommission for agriculture and the food industry was set up. Progress has also been made in the preparation of the setting up of a group for transport.

The session mapped out measures for activating cooperation in science and technology.

CSSR Economic Counselor on Joint Cooperation

AU201540 Sofia ANTENI in Bulgarian
Issue No 11 16 Mar 88 p 7

[Interview with Antonin Jakubik, counselor on economic questions at the CSSR Embassy in Sofia, by Emilia Gergova: "Partnership Along New Tracks"]

[Excerpts] [Gergova] In history 40 years is not a very long period. However, during this time Czechoslovakia has succeeded in gaining international prestige. We are very impressed by your economic development. Can you describe the greatest achievements of this period and reveal the secret of your successes?

[Jakubik] We will never forget February 1948 and the words of Klement Gottwald, who in those difficult years for our country urged all decent people to defend the Republic against the efforts of reaction to carry out a coup and bring back the past. The people defended the Republic with great enthusiasm and our workers embarked on a new path.

I would like to stress that in all these years, especially at the beginning when we had to face the greatest difficulties, we were not alone. We began the construction of the new Czechoslovakia with the fraternal assistance and support of the USSR and in cooperation with the arising people's democratic countries. [passage omitted on CSSR economic achievements since 1948]

[Gergova] Against the background of the general picture of international economic relations, cooperation between the CSSR and Bulgaria is an important link. It is a necessity for both countries. This is why our readers will be interested in more details on cooperation between Bulgaria and the CSSR and to learn what the real results, problems, and the future prospects of this cooperation look like?

[Jakubik] The expansion of rights and independence of enterprises, as well as their responsibility for the goods they produce, not only opens up new opportunities from the point of view of management methods, but also for international cooperation.

Czechoslovak-Bulgarian cooperation in the economic, scientific, and technical sectors is based on solid traditions, despite the fact that only following the February 1948 events, this cooperation could be fully developed. Throughout the years of socialist construction this cooperation became an inseparable part of economic development in both countries. In addition to the permanently increasing volume of mutual cooperation—which in the last 10 years increased 3.5 times—its economic structure is changing as well. Along with the expanding exchange of goods, specialization and production sharing, in the machine building sector, above all, which attained 45 percent of the exchange of goods, play a prevailing role. Cooperation in the machine building, chemical industry, light industry, and other branches is becoming traditional. This applies in particular to the production of LIAZ-Madara freight trucks. In 1988 the Madara enterprise will deliver over 20,000 axles to the CSSR, while LIAZ will deliver 3,500 disassembled automobiles for assembly in the People's Republic of Bulgaria. Bulgarian transportation-lifting mechanisms, calculating machines and business equipment are operating in the CSSR, and Bulgarian agricultural goods and foodstuffs are used in our country.

The Czechoslovak deliveries are providing Bulgarian enterprises with metal processing and stamping machines, and with textile industry equipment. Mutual

deliveries of chemical products and consumer goods are increasing. This cooperation attained a volume amounting to 1.3 billion leva in 1987.

According to the protocol signed in 1988, the mutual deliveries will exceed those of 1987. However, it is obvious that the economic development of both countries requires a greater variety of new forms in our foreign economic relations. In addition to the necessity of increasing accuracy and precision in the schedules of implementing mutual commitments and in increasing strictness as regards the parameters and quality of goods, there are two additional factors which will make 1988 an exceptional year in our economic relations.

We recently signed an agreement on the delivery of equipment for the Belene nuclear power station. So far this is the most important extensive agreement signed between the CSSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The construction of the power station will be implemented with the assistance of the USSR. The project proves the great technical progress of all partners.

The second factor and an exceptionally important task for 1988 is the application of new forms of economic cooperation stemming from restructuring and adopted at the 43d CEMA Session.

The main thing is to accomplish the transition from exchange of experience to direct production and scientific-technical cooperation. Our task is to assist the establishment of joint trusts, scientific collectives, laboratories, and enterprises, so that their work may contribute even more to the implementation of the increasing tasks. This is the only way to implement the projects for accelerated economic development and to ensure a more prosperous life for people in both countries. For the CSSR this is the most efficient manner to fulfill the legacy of the February 1948 working people's victory.

TU Seminar With SFRY Continues

AU182135 Sofia BTA in English
2035 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Blagoevgrad, March 18 (BTA)—The Trade Union seminar which started two days ago in the Yugoslavian city of Skopje continued here today. It is attended by delegations of the Central Council of the Bulgarian Trade Unions and of the Union of Yugoslavian Trade Unions, as well as by working groups of the Municipal Council of the Trade Unions in Blagoevgrad and of the Republican Council of the Trade Unions of the Socialist Republic of Macedonia.

Topical issues of the development of self-management and the role of trade unions were discussed at the meeting.

Afghan Party Delegation Arrives For [illegible]

AU181526 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian
17 Mar 88 p 2

[Text] A delegation of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, led by Najmoddin Kawiani, Politburo member and secretary for international affairs of the party's Central Committee, arrived on 16 March on a visit to Bulgaria at the invitation of the BCP Central Committee.

At Sofia Airport the delegation was welcomed by Milko Balev, Politburo member and secretary of the BCP Central Committee.

Also present was Mehrabuddin Paktiawal, ambassador of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan to Bulgaria.

Zhivkov Receives Kawiani

AU181939 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian
1830 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Comrade Todor Zhivkov has received Najmoddin Kawiani, Politburo member and secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

The guest handed over a message from Afghan leader Najibullah and gave a briefing on the main elements in the development of the Afghanistan situation.

Comrade Todor Zhivkov acquainted the guest with the main aspects of the restructuring under way in Bulgaria and the peace-loving foreign policy of the party and state. In the name of the communists and all the working people of Bulgaria, he expressed solidarity with Afghanistan's national reconciliation policy and its position at the indirect Afghan-Pakistani negotiations in Geneva, the early and successful conclusion of which is connected with the hopes for maintaining peace in the region.

During the conversation mutual readiness was confirmed to further expand and deepen the links and cooperation between the two parties and countries.

Chilean Socialist Leaders Conclude Visit

AU182133 Sofia BTA in English
2025 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Sofia, March 18 (BTA)—A delegation of the Chilean Socialist Party (P.S.Ch.) headed by Mr Manuel Almeyda, deputy secretary general of the party, visited this country from March 15 through March 18. The delegation was received by Mr Milko Balev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CC of the BCP, and by Mr Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the CC of the BCP.

During the meetings and talks, which have passed in a cordial, friendly atmosphere, a wide range of questions of the activity of the two parties and of the situation in the world were discussed. Special attention was paid to

the situation in Latin America. It was emphasised that the 15-year military-fascist regime in Chile is a political anachronism which does not correspond to the tendencies for democracy of the socio-political life which have included almost all countries from the region.

The Chilean delegation informed of the efforts of its party for mobilization of the masses for the construction of a broad unity of the democratic and progressive forces in the struggle against the dictatorship and its attempts to perpetuate its rule through the so-called "plebiscite".

On behalf of the leadership of the Chilean Socialist Party Mr Manuel Almeyda expressed gratitude to the BCP and Bulgaria for the active support and solidarity which they have rendered and render to the just struggle of the Chilean patriots for freedom and democracy.

On the Bulgarian side the guests were acquainted in detail with the process of radical restructuring underway in this country in all spheres of social life. The guests were informed of the basic trends of the foreign policy activity of the BCP and Bulgaria, which in the spirit of the new political thinking work for peace, cooperation and understanding in the Balkans, Europe and in the world.

The two sides stressed the need of enhancement of the unity of action between all democratic and progressive forces in the struggle for the construction of a peaceful, just and free world. The two sides confirmed the mutual desire for further development of the traditional relations of friendship and solidarity existing between the BCP and the P.S.Ch., in interest of the two peoples, peace and socialism.

Palestinian Solidarity Rally Held in Sofia

AU191325 Sofia BTA in English
2128 GMT 18 Mar 88

["Solidarity With the Arab People of Palestine"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 18 (BTA)—A meeting was held here today at which the Bulgarian public expressed its solidarity with the resoluteness of the Palestinians to withstand [as received] their irreversible rights of national independence.

Bulgaria has always stood on the side of the Arab people of Palestine struggling for their national independence. She has rendered material and moral assistance, said Mr Kiril Ignatov, chairman of the Society for Friendship with the Palestinian People and chairman of the CC of the Bulgarian Red Cross. Bulgaria's position on the Middle East crisis and its central problem—the Palestinian, is well known, he said. Just and durable settlement of these complicated problems cannot be reached without the full and unconditional withdrawal of Israel from all territories occupied in 1967 and after that date, the eastern part of Jerusalem included, without the implementation of the irreversible national rights of the Arab people of Palestine and its rights for self-determination and establishment of its own independent state on its own land, without the return of the Palestinians to their birth land in compliance with resolutions of the United Nations and guaranteeing the right to all peoples in the region for secure independent existence.

The speaker pointed out that Bulgaria supports the idea of the Soviet Union for the convening of a consultative meeting of the ministers of foreign affairs of the UN Security Council member-states, which would be the first step toward the convening of an international conference under the aegis of the UN with the participation of all interested states, the Palestine Liberation Organization included. The main precondition for the solution of the Palestinian problem is the further deepening of the unity of action between the Palestinian resistance movement and the Arab national liberation movement, the deepening of the cooperation with all the progressive and democratic forces in the world.

Mr Ismail Muhammad Abu, permanent representative of PLO to this country, spoke about the struggle of the people against the continuing Israeli occupation and the outrages of the Israeli Army against the civilian population. He spoke also about the irresistible spirit of the Palestinians and their will for struggle.

Discussion on Civil Defense Restructuring

AU181439 [Editorial Report] Sofia NARODNA ARMIYA in Bulgarian on 17 March on pages 1 and 2, under the heading "Highly Humane and Patriotic Activity," and Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT in Bulgarian on 17 March on pages 1, 3 and 4, under the heading "Highly Humane and Patriotic Goal," carry an identical 3,200-word "joint publication," prepared by teams from the two papers. The first paragraph states:

"At the initiative of the NARODNA ARMIYA and OTECHESTVEN FRONT editorial boards a discussion meeting was held between representatives of the two editorial boards and the leadership of the Civil Defense of Bulgaria. Issues were discussed relating to the restructuring of the activity and structure of Civil Defense stemming from the decisions of the July and November 1987 Plenums of the BCP Central Committee and the BCP National Conference. The meeting was chaired by Colonel Georgi Atanasov, editor in chief of NARODNA ARMIYA, and the participants included Lieutenant General Tsotso Tsotsov, chief of the Civil Defense Administration and deputy minister of national defense; Major Gen Ivan Sultanov, chief of staff; Major Gen Georgi Temenliev, deputy chief of the Political Administration; and other Civil Defense staff officers."

Lt Gen Tsotsov opens the discussion by defining the contemporary aims and tasks of the Civil Defense, which include the tackling of natural disasters and large accidents in peacetime. He then explains that changes are needed due to the recent party decisions, the new defensive military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact, the new territorial division of Bulgaria, and the increased possibility of industrial disasters arising from rapid economic development throughout the world. Accordingly, says Tsotsov, "we are making adjustments and improvements to the organizational structure to bring it into line with the new administrative and economic units," and "trying to overcome the formal approach of creating uniform nonmilitarized civil defense formations of one and the same type" by "building up formations on the basis of forecasts of the likely situation for a given region or municipality." He goes on to survey in very general terms the measures being taken for civil defense training of the population, noting that municipal and economic leaderships must be made more aware of civil defense requirements.

Major Gen Sultanov then describes the work of civil defense formations in dealing with the aftermath of the Strazhitsa earthquake and the fire at the "Sviloza" plant at Devnya Chemical Combine.

The meeting then discusses how to influence municipal committees and plant directors who show lack of understanding of civil defense problems or reluctance to tackle them. Sultanov comments on the "inadequacy of the preventative work to avert industrial accidents," mentioning the general lack of up-to-date safety equipment and slackness in observing plant operating procedures. Officer Komarski speaks about the failure to maintain rail freight services in Burgas and Khaskovo Oblasts 2 years ago during a period of heavy snowstorms, and failure to control the periodic flooding of the Danube. Officer Milanov describes an inspection made in Panagyurishte that showed that the local industry had failed to implement a BCP Central Committee decree on taking measures to ensure stable industrial production in the event of a war situation.

A concluding editorial comment on the meeting notes that "the discussion meeting categorically proved that civil defense issues do not only concern individual organs and organizations. They should not remain merely words, but be implemented in practice in the form of a complete, all-embracing system that incorporates all spheres and structures of economic and social life."

Sofia Area Water Pollution Discussed

AU181425 Sofia TRUD in Bulgarian
16 Mar 88 p 2

[Rusen Krumov article: "However, There Is No Effect. . ."—"The Misfortunes of the Sofia City Sewage Treatment Plant"]

[Excerpts] To build for 10 years, to spend 60 million leva, and then find out that the effect envisaged in the draft project will not be obtained—this is quite unusual. Nevertheless, this is the case with the Sofia City sewage treatment plant. Now, more than 3 years after the official commissioning of the plant, specialists are embarrassed when they explain that the expectations of the designers, builders, and users of the plant have remained unfulfilled.

The largest sewage treatment plant in Bulgaria and the Balkans! This was proudly proclaimed while the plant was still under construction. It is known that the river Iskur near the industrial zone of Gara Iskur falls within the framework of Category II, to which it has been assigned, which means that its waters are nominally pure and suitable for irrigation and industrial needs. From this point to Eliseyna, because of the large amount of domestic sewage from the capital and industrial waste waters, the river is strongly polluted and even exceeds the lowest category, Category IV. As a matter of fact, this part of the river is nothing but a sewege canal and the waters are totally unsuitable both for irrigation and for industrial needs. According to the initial project, the purpose of the plant was to purify these heavily polluted waters from the capital so that they may be classified as Category II and may become suitable for irrigation and industrial needs. The projects were developed toward the beginning of the seventies by the VODOKANALPROEKT enterprise. [passage omitted].

When the station was finally commissioned, however, Sofia citizens were amazed to discover that the well-known picture of the river Iskur had not much changed. What was the reason for this?

First of all, it is due to the simple fact that the full capacity of the plant—namely to treat 7 cubic meters per second of sewage waters and already purified industrial waters—has not been used. What is the reason for this? The collectors required to carry the polluted waters to the treatment station have not been installed. When the station was commissioned, the collectors carried about half of the necessary amount, while today only approximately 4.5 cubic meters per second, instead of 7 cubic meters per second are being processed. As we usually say, a small error has occurred in planning. . . Despite the delay in the construction of the plant, the former leadership of the capital did not plan and did not allocate sufficient financial resources for the construction of collectors. This situation has by no means improved since. Promises were made that by the end of the current 5-year plan period the necessary collectors would be built and the plant would work at full capacity. [passage omitted]

When will the treated waters be used? As a matter of fact, this is the most important question. Let us recall that, according to the draft project, the waters treated by the Sofia plant should be classified as Category II and be used for irrigation and industrial purposes. According to

the program on an efficient and thrifty use of water resources, and on guaranteeing the water consumption of the capital during the Ninth 5-Year Plan period, which was adopted at a session of the Sofia City People's Council Executive Committee on 6 October 1986, it is envisaged by 1986 and 1987 to use 2 million cubic meters of water treated in the plant annually, and that this amount should increase to 77 million cubic meters annually in 1990. In 1988, the last year of the current 5-year plan period, 60 million cubic meters of nominally purified water should be provided for Kremikovtsi, while 17 million cubic meters are expected to be used for irrigation. Nevertheless, the amounts envisaged in the plan for the capital's water economy will not be provided for....

Following the commissioning of the Sofia City sewage treatment plant, the Nikola Pushkarov Institute for soil research and programmed yield planning was commissioned to make a thorough analysis of the quality of the treated water and of the solid sediments, in a special testing ground. These and other tests showed that the waters are unsuitable both for irrigation and industrial needs. According to the initial projects, 40,000 decares of agricultural crops in the Sofia area were supposed to be irrigated and the major part of the waters was expected to be transferred through a special water pipe and pumping station to the Kremikovtsi combine which uses enormous quantities of water—namely, 950 million cubic meters annually. Approximately, 90 percent of this amount is recycled, so that 100 million cubic meters of fresh water annually are required. Along with the consumption for irrigation—namely, 65 million cubic meters—this represents over one third of the water supplied for the capital. Owing to this, the major part of the water, instead of being supplied by the Sofia city sewege treatment plant, will again be taken from the Pancharevo reservoir. Taking into account the crisis in the capital's water supply balance, as a result of the drought in recent years, this is an unjustified luxury indeed. . . [passage omitted]

Leaders' Public Appearances 12-18 March

AU192127 [Editorial Report] Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian in its newcasts, the Sofia press, and BTA during the 12-18 March monitoring period report the following public appearances of Bulgarian leaders (sourceline of each report given in parentheses):

The following leaders attended a ceremony in Sofia on 15 March at which Todor Zhivkov awarded the Georgi Dimitrov Order to departing Soviet Ambassador Leonid Grekov: Georgi Atanasov, Grisha Filipov, Dobri Dzhurov, Milko Balev, Ognyan Doynov, Pencho Kubadinski, Petur Mladenov, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Andrey Lukanov, Georgi Yordanov, Grigor Stoichkov, Dimitur Stoyanov, Petur Dyulgerov, Stoyan Markov, Nacho Papazov, Vasil Tsanov, Dimitur Stanishev, and Emil Khristov. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 15 Mar 88)

The reception given at the Soviet Embassy in Sofia on 17 March to mark the 40th anniversary of the first Bulgarian-Soviet treaty of friendship was attended by Comrades Georgi Atanasov, Milko Balev, Petur Mladenov, Petur Tanchev, Chudomir Aleksandrov, Andrey Lukanov, Nacho Papazov, and Dimitur Stanishev. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2000 GMT 17 Mar 88)

Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council, received in Sofia on 16 March the newly appointed ambassadors of Peru and Nepal, (Sofia BTA in English 1840 GMT 16 Mar 88) and of Egypt and Iceland. (Sofia BTA in English 1906 GMT 16 Mar 88) In Sofia on 17 March, he received the new ambassadors of Angola, (Sofia BTA in English 1554 GMT 17 Mar 88) Madagascar, (Sofia BTA in English 1647 GMT 17 Mar 88), Burma and Sri Lanka. (Sofia BTA in English 1722 GMT 17 Mar 88) In Sofia on 18 March he received Najmoddin Kawiani, Politburo member and secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Georgi Atanasov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Council of Ministers, visited the SRV Embassy in Sofia on 15 March to sign the book of condolences on the death Pham Hung, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers. (Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 16 Mar 88 p 8) On 17 March he attended with "other party and state leaders" a festive meeting in Sofia's Georgi Kirkov Hall to mark the 40th anniversary of the first Bulgarian-Soviet friendship treaty. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 17 Mar 88)

Chudomir Aleksandrov, Politburo member and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, received in Sofia on 15 March an SFRY women's delegation led by Mart Mikic. (Sofia BTA in English 1845 GMT 15 Mar 88)

Milko Balev, Politburo member and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, saw off the Nicaraguan delegation led by Bayardo Arce at Sofia Airport on 13 March. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 13 Mar 88) At Sofia Airport on 16 March he welcomed an Afghan party delegation led by Najmoddin Kawiani, Politburo member and secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, (Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 17 Mar 88 p 2) and on 18 March he met a returning BCP delegation that had attended a conference in Ulaanbataar. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 18 Mar 88) Balev also received a Chilean Socialist Party delegation led by Manuel Almeyda that ended its visit to Bulgaria on 18 March. (Sofia BTA in English 2025 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Ognyan Doynov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo, returned to Sofia on 13 March from a working visit to the FRG, (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 13 Mar 88) where he had meetings

with FRG Economics Minister Martin Bangemann and West German businessmen. (Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 14 Mar 88 p 2)

Stanko Todorov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the National Assembly, departed from Sofia on 13 March for Tokyo at the head of a National Assembly delegation, (Sofia BTA in English 1612 GMT 13 Mar 88) and stopped over in Moscow on 13 March en route to Japan. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 13 Mar 88) In Tokyo he held talks on 15 March with Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno, (Sofia BTA in English 1534 GMT 15 Mar 88) and on 16 March met with Hajime Tamura, minister of international trade and industry. (Sofia BTA in English 1914 GMT 16 Mar 88) On 18 March Todorov and his delegation visited Hiroshima and Osaka. (Sofia BTA in English 1700 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Yordan Yotov, Politburo member and secretary of the BCP Central Committee, departed for Ulaanbataar on 14 March at the head of a BCP Central Committee delegation to attend a conference of central committee secretaries there. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 14 Mar 88) He and the delegation returned to Sofia on 18 March. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Petur Dyulgerov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Central Council of Bulgarian Trade Unions, took part in a national trade union conference held in Sofia on 18 March to discuss the work of the municipal trade union councils. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Andrey Lukanov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign economic relations, visited the GDR from 12 through 14 March, holding talks with GDR ministers. (Sofia BTA in English 1544 GMT 14 Mar 88)

Georgi Yordanov, candidate member of the BCP Central Committee and minister of culture, science, and education, received an Italian cultural delegation led by Senator Germano de Cinque in Sofia on 17 March. (Sofia BTA in English 1901 GMT 17 Mar 88) At Sofia Airport on 18 March he welcomed PRC Culture Minister Wang Meng with his delegation. (Sofia BTA in English 1923 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, also saw off the Nicaraguan delegation led by Bayardo Arce at Sofia Airport on 13 March. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 13 Mar 88)

Stoyan Mikhaylov was a member of the BCP delegation that left Sofi on 14 March to attend a conference in Ulaanbataar (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 14 Mar 88) and returned to Sofia on 18 March. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, also me with the Chilean Socialist Party delegation led by Manuel Almeyda that ended its visit on 18 March. (Sofia BTA in English 2025 GMT 18 Mar 88)

Vasil Tsanov, secretary of the BCP Central Committee, accompanied CPSU Central Committee delegation led by Viktor Nikonov on a visit to Varna on 12 March. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 12 Mar 88) In Mikhaylovgrad on 17 March he attended a plenum of the Mikhaylovgrad BCP organization on the development of agriculture in the region. (Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 2030 GMT 17 Mar 88)

USSR Mediterranean Security Proposal Supported

LD181743 Prague CTK in English
1616 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Prague March 18 (CTK)—Czechoslovakia welcomes and fully supports the new Soviet proposals for ensuring security and detente in the Mediterranean presented by Soviet Communist Party General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on March 15 during his visit to Yugoslavia, Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry spokesman Dusan Rovensky said today.

Czechoslovakia is convinced that the consistent realization of these proposals can significantly help change the Mediterranean into a zone of peace, security and cooperation, Dusan Rovensky stressed.

The Soviet proposals mean the possibility to extend political and military detente, disarmament and cooperation into the Mediterranean region. These positive processes, which have already fought their way in Europe, are being extended also to the Mediterranean where those positive results which have already been achieved on the European continent can also be applied.

Commentary

LD201308 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1130 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Foreign political commentary by Alois Tomasek]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] A proposal was submitted by Comrade Gorbachev during his visit to Yugoslavia, the aim of which is to reduce the huge concentration of warships in the Mediterranean Sea. The exceptional point of this proposal—which includes a freeze on the number of Soviet and U.S. naval forces in this area, recommends announcements about military exercises, and ensuring the security of sea lanes—is that it is not understood to be absolute, as the only possibility, but leaves room for wide dialogue in which all coastal states should take part, and not just European states.

In connection with this proposal I would like to stress the thought expressed by Comrade Gorbachev in Yugoslavia to the effect that humanity can achieve new horizons of progress. It can only do this, however, by the joint effort of all states linked together in a spirit of responsibility and mutual udnerstanding, equality and trust. In connection with another thought—that it is necessary to democratize international relations in such a way so that the voice of every nation is equally valid—this in essence expresses a far-reaching idea of a world society of mutually equal states, linked with a unity of interests. I do not hesitate to call this thought the idea for future millenium and it is good that it has already been expressed now. The conditions for its realization are now beginning to ripen. With the knowledge that the existence of the human race is indivisible, a new and far wider understanding of those dangers which threaten the whole of humanity—and these are not just nuclear weapons, even though they are the main danger for the moment—is emerging. Such ideas as the proposal to form and completely implement true democracy in international relations, in which the rights of nations would not be measured by their economic or military strength, bring a new dynamism to international politics and make the apparently impossible possible. [passage omitted]

USSR-SFRY Declaration Stresses Dialogue

LD210915 Prague CTK in English
0730 GMT 21 Mar 88

[Text] Prague March 21 (CTK)—"Dialogue ranks among the tested instruments—and the (Soviet-Yugoslav) declaration stressed this—leading to the goal, no correct solution is possible without discussion," RUDE PRAVO said today and added that experience from practical socialist construction has an irreplaceable value.

"However, experience is born only with respect for the principle that each socialist country has the right to choose such a road of socialist construction as it considers to be in harmony with its specific historical conditions," the paper said.

"As we have stated many times, we regard the policy of restructuring, started and pursued by the Soviet Communist Party, as an example of a generally stimulating experience. It develops socialism at theoretical and practical levels and has a revolutionary character. The experience stemming from it thus exceeds national significance."

Deputy Chief of Staff on Exercises With USSR

LD181425 Prague CTK in English
1334 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Prague March 18 (CTK)—"During the forthcoming military exercises of Soviet and Czechoslovak troops in Czechoslovakia we want to show the observers taking part that our maneuvers are of defensive character and to prove Czechoslovakia's efforts to consistently fulfill the document of the Stockholm Conference on Confidence and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe", a senior officer of the Czechoslovak Army said here today.

First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Czechoslovak People's Army Lt.-Gen. Jiri Brychta informed a news conference today of the planned military exercises of the Czechoslovak and Soviet Army in north Bohemia from March 22 to 28.

He said that in tune with the Stockholm Document all CSCE participants were informed of the holding of the military exercises in which 43 observers from 22 countries will take part. They will be informed in detail of the plan of the maneuvers and will be allowed to use during their mission a number of technical aids, including

cameras and tape-recorders. 17,000 Soviet and 409 Czechoslovak soldiers will take part in the exercises and no nuclear weapons will be involved.

Lt. Gen. Jiri Brychta further said that Czechoslovakia will organize one more military exercise this year to which foreign observers will be invited in harmony with the conclusions of the Stockholm Conference.

Code-named "Sumava 88", the exercises will be held in south Bohemia with 17,350 Czechoslovak soldiers taking part. Apart from this, military maneuvers will be held in south Bohemia from June 14 to 17, with 13,000 Czechoslovak soldiers taking part. These exercises are liable to being reported, within the Stockholm Document.

Lt. Gen. Jiri Brychta further stressed Czechoslovakia's interest in the further expansion of the process of building security and confidence in Europe. In this connection he expressed concern over the fact that in the past year, the NATO states held military exercises in very close succession so that for instance between June 6 and 25, 1987 there were 212,000 NATO soldiers concentrated along the line dividing the Warsaw Treaty and NATO states, 153,000 of whom were in the FRG. According to NATO's timetable, this situation is to repeat this year. "In the interest of increasing confidence, the Warsaw Treaty states organize their exercises evenly as to time and area", Lt. Gen. Jiri Brychta stressed.

Bilak, Delegation Depart for PRC

LD210955 Prague CTK in English
0838 GMT 21 Mar 88

[Text] Prague March 21 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party Presidium member and Central Committee Secretary Vasil Bilak left for China today on a friendly working visit at the invitation of the Chinese Communist Party Central Committee.

Vasil Bilak is accompanied by head secretary of the East Bohemian Regional Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Otto Liska and head of a party Central Committee department Vladimir Patek.

Strougal Receives Poland's Sadowski

AU181249 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech
17 Mar 88 p 1

[CTK report: "Raising Economic Relations to a Higher Level"]

[Text] Prague (CTK)—CSSR Premier Lubomir Strougal received Zdzislaw Sadowski, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Planning Commission of the PPR, in Prague on Wednesday [16 March]. In the course of his working visit to Czechoslovakia.

During their talk they discussed economic reform problems in the two fraternal countries. They dealt in particular with the present and future role of central agencies, with the first experience in which the strategy of making the production-technical base independent will have on the market and on the national economy. In this context they also appraised practices in bilateral contacts and contacts within the community of CEMA states. It was stated that economic changes are quite essential, that there is no other alternative.

Zdzislaw Sadowski recalled the difficulties in implementing economic thinking throughout management, and then spoke of the effects of stereotype methods and long-established habits in the work of economic cadres. Lubomir Strougal demanded that the dependence on old commercial and economic practices should definitely be done away with by coordinating the plans of the CSSR and the PPR and, above all, that modern forms of cooperation should be given free rein. Both the CSSR and the PPR have every prerequisite for setting a good example within the framework of the socialist community.

The reception was attended by Svatopluk Potac, CSSR deputy premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission; and by Zdzislaw Andruszkiewicz, councillor of the Embassy of the PPR in the CSSR.

Romanian Premier To Visit CSSR 21 March

LD201903 Prague Domestic Service in Czech
1730 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Excerpt] Constantin Dascalescu, member of the Political Executive Committee of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee and prime minister of Romania, will arrive in Czechoslovakia tomorrow on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Federal Premier Lubomir Strougal. [passage omitted]

Release of Citizens Held in Guatemala Sought

LD202100 Prague CTK in English
1953 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Mexico City, March 20 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Ambassador to Nicaragua Zdenek Dlesk met with Guatemalan Ambassador Gonzales in Managua today to discuss steps towards a release of the Czechoslovak "Tatra Round the World" expedition members.

The Guatemalan diplomat told the CERIGUA NEWS AGENCY later today that the Czechoslovak citizens have not been imprisoned, but only put in custody.

The Tatra expedition was detained Thursday at Melchor de Mencos village, north Guatemala, near the Belize border.

Until now, the expedition had no problems with any authorities, except for the U.S. traffic police which verified the crew's identity and the truck's equipment.

The detainment of Czechoslovak citizens attracted the attention of the Guatemalan mass media. The right-wing "Aqui el Mundo" TV station described the Czechoslovaks as "Spies". The Guatemalan ambassador to Nicaragua, however, said the accusation of spying is only a press speculation.

The Guatemalan press stated that the Tatra truck and its equipment is of a high technical quality. Guatemalan Army spokesman Roberto Letona said that the army is now testing carefully all apparatuses, documents and notes found in the truck.

Chandra Speaks on World Peace Council's Meeting

LD181238 Prague CTK in English
1155 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Prague March 18 (CTK)—The capital of Czechoslovakia will be the venue of a session of the World Peace Council (WPC) Presidium on March 19-22, to which not only Presidium members but also representatives of other international and national peace movements, social organizations and political parties from 90 countries have been invited.

The WPC, a non-governmental organization comprising personalities and organizations from 145 countries, represents the largest international peace movement linking millions of people from all strata of the population regardless of their social status, political orientation or religious conviction. It was founded in Warsaw in 1950 at the Second World Peace Congress. The founding World Peace Congress was held concurrently in Prague and Paris on April 20-25, 1949. In 1951-56 the Czechoslovak capital was the seat of the World Peace Council Secretariat which later moved to Vienna and since September 1968 has been working in Helsinki.

The WPC Presidium supervises the Council's activities between individual sessions. The last session of the WPC was held in Sofia two years ago.

The WPC Presidium held its last session in Prague in April 1979 on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the foundation of the world and Czechoslovak peace movements. The decision to hold the WPC Presidium session again in Prague was due to the growing authority of the Czechoslovak peace movement in the socialist, capitalist and developing countries, relying on the principles of peaceful coexistence, dialogue and effective cooperation for the sake of detente and peace.

Expressing his satisfaction at Czechoslovakia complying with the World Peace Council effort to expand the international dialogue and cooperation of the various components of the anti-war movemnet, WPC President Romesh Chandra said in an interview for CTK that Prague is an ideal place where anybody can come without any obstacles, and it proved it clearly in 1983 when it hosted the World Assembly for Peace and Life, against Nuclear War. The Prague assembly became the first step along the path towards new, more effective methods of activities of the World Peace Council, envisaging a greater involvement of the world public in the struggle for the elimination of weapons of all kinds, irrespective of world outlooks.

WPC Presidium Session Continues

LD201758 Prague CTK in English
1532 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Prague March 20 (CTK)—An extended session of the World Peace Council, which opened here Saturday, continued today with discussions in six workshops.

The session, attended by 180 presidium members and more than 100 invited representatives of other organizations, dealt with all important issues of the world peace movement and world politics, i.e. the relation between disarmament and development, the observance of human rights, education to peace, ecological questions, problems of nuclear and conventional disarmament, and tasks of the peace movement in settling regional conflicts.

A discussion on peace in connection with protection of the environment expressed the WPC's and other organizations' new point of view on the latest developments in the world. According to the delegates from Europe, Asia, and Latin America, ecological problems are now being included in programs of originally "exclusively peace" organizations. There are no borders between the East and the West, the north and the south in the sphere of ecology, as well as in the struggle for peace. That is why international cooperation is required to solve them.

The forum of more than 300 delegates was divided Sunday also into five continental sections to explain and analyze specific features of the situation in Europe, Africa, Asia, America and Oceania from the point of view of the peace movement.

Delegates to WPC Presidium Session Give Interviews to CTK [CTK subhead]

Prague—Lama Gaadan, chairman of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP), who arrived here to explain the Buddhist view on peace and disarmament to the WPC Presidium session delegates, said in an interview for CTK that Buddhism teaches people to live in peace and understanding.

He stressed that his organization intends to deepen cooperation with national organizations, members of the WPC in the future, and added that he wants to establish new contacts here.

The Continental Organization of Latin American Students (OCLAE) based in Havana associates secondary school and university students from Latin American and Caribbean countries. It devotes great attention to the question of disarmament in connection with the development, OCLAE chairwoman Ana Maria Pellon told CTK today.

She said that the economic, social and cultural development cannot be realized without peace. Students, representing the future of any part of the world, vigorously and consistently point to the difficult economic situation in Latin America caused by colonial and neocolonial hegemonies. We are striving for cooperation with other peace organizations to support the development, she said.

The 20th century with its two world wars, and especially the beginning of a nuclear era with the new quality of destructive weapons, has changed mankind's relation to peace and war, Anezka Ebertova, WPC member and secretary of the Ecumenical Council of Churches in Czechoslovakia, told CTK today.

The churches belong to those social forces striving for peace, except for certain circles which struggle against communism and socialism. Some groups also misuse the faith and religion in local conflicts or for stirring up political and ideological hatred, Anezka Ebertova said, and stressed that the Czechoslovak churches associate many active fighters for peace.

The struggle for peace is closely connected with the struggle for human rights, Abdullah al-Rashid of the National Front for the Liberation of Bahrain said here today.

The situation in the gulf is a good example. The U.S. and its allies manipulate the peoples living in the region. The Iran-Iraq conflict and the continuous escalation of tension there arouse hostility to the detriment of the people. A number of progressive organizations must work in illegality, Abdullah al-Rashid said, emphasizing that anyone who wants to speak about human rights, must think of peace at the same time.

There is no real freedom and democracy without peace. This meeting makes it possible to discuss all global problems, to exchange views, and also express solidarity with the peoples of many countries struggling for their rights and political freedom, against colonialism and imperialism, the Bahrain delegate said.

It is not accidental that the World Peace Council session devotes great attention also to the struggle of the Arab people of Palestine for their legitimate rights, Mazen Husseini [name as received], member of the Palestinian National Council, told CTK here today.

This struggle has entered a new stage with the people's uprising of the Palestinians on the occupied West Bank of Jordan and in the Gaza Strip, and it is very important that it takes place in a new phase of the world struggle for peace, disarmament and security. There is now a greater hope for the solution of the explosive 40-year conflict and the convocation of a peace conference on the Middle East under the auspices of the U.N. and with equal participation of the Palestine Liberation Organization. The plan of the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, discussed recently during his visit to the region, does not contribute to a settlement of the conflict which jeopardized peace not only in the Middle East but in the whole world, he stressed.

Mrs. Edwina Steward, honorary secretary of Northern Ireland Civil Rights Association (NICRA), welcomed that the World Peace Council Presidium has prepared also a human rights workshop and stressed that she could demonstrate there on a number of examples the violation of basic civil and human in Northern Ireland by the British Government.

Although numerous British military commanders declare that there is no military solution for divided Ireland, they resort to military actions against the Irish people, violate the basic democratic norms and torture detained people, she said, and pointed out the necessity of a broad solidarity with the Irish people.

Envoy Presents Jakes Proposal to EC

AU191829 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 16 Mar 88 p 1

[CTK dispatch]

[Text] Brussels—Jaroslav Kvacek, CSSR ambassador to Belgium, presented the text of the Czechoslovak peace initiative (which Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, announced on the occasion of celebrations of the 40th anniversary of Victorious February), to EC Commission member Willy de Clercq in Brussels on Tuesday [15 March].

The Czechoslovak diplomat pointed out to the representative of this supreme EC executive institution the main goals of the proposal—to establish a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good neighborly relations along the line of contact between the NATO states and the Warsaw Pact states, a proposal that is in keeping with the idea of comprehensively developing good relations between states with different social systems in the spirit of CSCE conclusions.

According to Willy de Clercq, the EC Commission will discuss the Czechoslovak initiative at its next session and adopt an official stand on it.

Dissidents Apply for Demonstration Permit
AU181215 Vienna Domestic Service in German 1100 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] A group called "Church From Below" has officially applied for permission to hold a demonstration for freedom of religion and civil rights. The rally is to take place in Bratislava on 25 March. This would be the first rally of its kind in the CSSR. The organizers stress the pacifist nature of the demonstration.

Jakes Addresses Tesla Pardubice Conference
LD200320 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2200 GMT 19 Mar 88

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, addressed the all-works CPCZ conference in Tesla Pardubice today.

In the opening passage of his speech he conveyed greetings from the party's Central Committee and paid tribute to the results achieved by Communists and other work people in this important enterprise in fulfilling the tasks set. Annual members meetings of primary organizations and party conferences have been taking place throughout our country. Their purpose, Comrade Jakes said, was to assess the existing work, discuss tasks for the period ahead, and also to discuss problems and seek ways of solving them. Our concern is above all to set the party and Communists in motion, to set about more offensively in the struggle for restructuring, and for the democratization of society.

The indivisable condition for our success is to fulfill the tasks set in the national economic plan. Here lies the basis of fulfilling the main aim of our party's policy, which is the growth of living standards of people and the strengthening of their social guarantees.

Comrade Milos Jakes singled out the critical and demanding approach by the directorate of the all-work committee of the CPCZ to the issues discussed and to constructive debate. This testifies to the fact, he said, that you know well your virtues but also the weaknesses of the work both of the whole enterprise and the party organization as well as those caused by shortcomings of the higher management authorities. This concerns problems in contractual relations and obsolescence of fixed production assets as well as in their insufficient utilization and in the quality of production.

The most important problem is, however, the insufficient application of the results of science and technology in practice. This is above all manifested in the fact that we have not been succeeding in reducing production costs. We still consume far too much raw and production materials and energy. This is the main reason why we are not fulfilling the envisaged growth of the national income and why we are not achieving the necessary effectiveness. It is to here that our attention must be turned.

The principal way is to speed up the innovation of products in order that they are of top quality and can be sold on the demanding foreign markets. The situation at present is such that we overwhelmingly export raw materials, semiproducts, and good quality consumer goods to the capitalist countries. This impoverishes our home market, which is justly criticized by people.

In this connection Comrade Milos Jakes pointed at shortcomings in the export of engineering products, which in view of the problems in technical standards and quality, and at times because of certain discriminatory obstacles, penetrate capitalist markets only with difficulty.

In the interest of raising the performance of our national economy we have embarked on the road of intensification. The issue is to produce products of better quality and to create a higher national income with lower costs, and lower consumption of raw and production materials and energy. As I have already said this cannot be achieved without raising the effectiveness of scientific and technological development. In your enterprise, too, you possess a strong scientific and technological base, which must be properly used and with which productiveness and effectiveness must be further raised, Comrade Milos Jakes stressed.

Naturally, we cannot do this on our own on the basis of what we shall invent. Rather it is necessary to make use of everything that exists in the world in this respect, and in particular to strive for a broad scientific and technological cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. The development of cooperation with capitalist states, which would be advantageous to both sides, is also important.

Comrade Milos Jakes went on to discuss the results of the fulfillment of the plan during the first 2 months of the current year. He said that there has been a certain improvement against last year, although one has to take into account favorable weather. One must not, however, overlook the fact that during the past 2 years we have lagged behind the planned growth of national income by kcs 15 billion. This naturally has an adverse effect, both from the viewpoint of investment into the manufacturing sector and from the viewpoint of further tackling social and other issues, although in this area we have been progressing more or less in accordance with the original projections of the 5-year plan. We have, however, used reserves for this purpose, which have been thereby exhausted. We cannot go further along this road. We have to earn for future social development.

The restructuring of the economic mechanism is the prerequisite for the intensification of the economy. The impulse for it was already given by the 17th CPCZ Congress and at the 7th session of the CPCZ Central Committee in December last year we approved its principles in a very specific form. We proceed from a simple and the only correct idea, that is, that we can only realize

our intentions if people understand them, adopt them as their own, and implement them actively. This is why it is necessary that they can vent their views, that they contribute to the solution of problems not only by their hands but also by their brains. For this reason we are promoting broad democratization in the life of the whole society. The laws on state enterprise, on agricultural and nonagricultural cooperatives envisage, besides a broad application of socialist self-administration, a marked extension of powers and accountability of enterprises on the basis of financial autonomy and self-financing. An enterprise will have to create resources for its own development and at the same time meet levies to the state budget.

The state cannot receive less. After all it meets the cost of the health service, education, social welfare, children's allowance, and family welfare. It builds roads and railways, that is, all useful things. The state has to maintain the country's defense at an appropriate level. At issue therefore is not a reduction of claims—for they will grow.

Work collectives have a great opportunity to secure their tasks through good work and the utilization of their not insignificant human and production potential, and through achieving higher profits from which they would have more resources for the development of the enterprise, wages, and for providing for further social needs.

There is naturally one circumstance here. Not every enterprise proceeds from the same starting point. Some produced and passed on to the state profits which were then invested elsewhere. Others were built from state funds; they have everything and can therefore manufacture well at the necessary technological level. It would be unjust to assert that all enterprises are enjoying the same conditions. For this reason some of them will have to temporarily turn over more money to the state than they would normally turn over in the conditions of restructuring. Others will, on the contrary, receive a subsidy so that the starting points will be evened up.

The intensification of the economy, Comrade Milos Jakes went on, necessarily requires a structural rebuilding of the national economy. Its important prerequisite is the intensification of socialist economic integration within the CEMA framework. This is why we are so strongly interested in drawing up a concept of the international division of labor for a period between 15 and 20 years. We cannot orient ourselves on raw-material-intensive production for which we have no conditions but on products that demand high skill input, professional competence, and the application of the results of science and technology.

In connection with the course of restructuring our economy views have emerged, Comrade Jakes said, that nothing was happening and that everything was going slowly. Yes, it is possible to criticize by saying that not everything is being tackled and resolved. But it is necessary at the same time to ask the question: What are we doing for restructuring at our own workplaces? Restructuring is not merely central directives. It is a new attitude of everyone of us to work, life, and the fulfillment of duties. This is the purpose of restructuring. This is its center of gravity.

Of course, the center plays an enormous role within this framework if we want, as far as the economy is concerned, to replace directive management with economic tools.

Comrade Jakes then went on to speak about the organizational restructuring of the material and technological base on which work is currently going on. He pointed out that the preparation of the new organizational structure does not pursue the fragmentation of the national economy into thousands of enterprises. It is necessary to maintain the necessary concentration of production and viability of enterprises—not a bureaucratic but a purposeful one, based on the principles of economic effectiveness.

The formation of the new organizational structure will be linked with the release of a number of employees, who will be used in such a way so as to benefit the national economy. Naturally, the security of their livelihood will in no case be threatened. Principles on how to proceed in tackling this problem have been drawn up. We shall treat well people who will have to change their employment and who worked well. They helped to build socialism and we simply cannot tell them: Now we do not need you; go and do whatever you want.

Comrade Milos Jakes then went on to speak about the preparation of the April session of the CPCZ Central Committee. We want, on the basis of experiences from the course of the annual members' meetings and conferences, to assess the situation in the party, to think about how to improve its activity further, in which direction to proceed and on what to place emphasis, and to consider how the party is to work in the conditions of restructuring and democratization. We want to give an answer to all this. We also envisage that we shall discuss the new organization of central authorities at the meeting of the Central Committee.

Besides these activities the CPCZ Central Committee is devoting a lot of attention to the fulfillment of the tasks set in the eight 5-year plan. The issue is to ensure that problems do not pile up and that we create a balanced state of the national economy, whether this concerns internal or external relations. In connection with restructuring we have to fight against egalitariasm, for a change in attitudes in the wage policy and in the issues of social justice in general, Comrade Milos Jakes stressed. Party organizations must also focus their attention on this area. This is a key matter if the thinking of people is to begin to alter at all. We have to see to it that there is pressure on everyone to perform and on justice among

people. We must not tolerate people being carried while others are having to work for them or the existence of social or other types of parasitism of any kind. We are adopting measures that would ensure that the principle of merit is manifested more markedly in pensions.

Social restructuring also calls for the restructuring of party work. The key is to strengthen unity and increase the party's capacity to mount actions, to fight for their policy not merely at the members meetings but above all in public through the example of one's work, and to achieve harmony between words and actions. It is necessary to deepen internal party democracy. The party must create an image of democratic behavior, which we want to assert throughout our society. To bring this about party members must be able to express themselves openly on all issues and a debate on them must be held. But as soon as a decision is made it is necessary that all Communists implement them consistently on the basis of democratic centralism. This is a principle that we cannot give up.

As far as the admission to party membership is concerned it is necessary to admit those who are prepared and who possess the prerequisite to be good members of the Communist Party. The key is quality and not quantity. The party is a selective militant, revolutionary organization and its members must conduct themselves accordingly.

In the next section of his speech, Comrade Milos Jakes stressed that restructuring also concerned the political system, the activity of organizations and bodies of the National Front, education, culture, the health service, sciences, and all areas of our life. We are concerned to ensure that society is set in motion along the correct direction and that the overwhelming majority of our people join actively in the struggle for the strengthening of socialism and the development of its virtues. The media alone cannot ensure this. Communists must fight for this above all at workplaces and in the public; carry out mass political work, push through, defend, and explain the party's policy; and serve as examples in its realization. Only this leads to success. This was also confirmed by the working people's victory in the days of February 1948, the 40th anniversary of which we recently marked.

We need the most important thing for our work and life—peace, Comrade Milos Jakes stressed. This is why we resolutely support the peace policy pursued by the Soviet Union and the socialist community and the proposals other states have submitted. We ourselves have entered this endeavor with initiative. We also support the latest proposals put forward by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev during his visit to Yugoslavia, which concern the reduction of tension in the Mediterranean.

The Czechoslovak initiative aimed at strengthening confidence, security, and good neighborly relations along the line of contacts between the Warsaw Pact and NATO states also constitutes a contribution to the offensive peace policy of the socialist countries. The struggle for peace demands that we are strong economically, strong by the humanistic substance of our system, and strong by our unity. The important thing is that this unity starts in our party.

At the close of his speech Comrade Milos Jakes wished Communists and employees of Tesla Pardubice, concern enterprise, good health and many successes in fulfilling the conclusions reached at the 17th CPCZ Congress.

No Link Between Convertibility, IMF

AU181115 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 15 Mar 88 p 6

[Article by Assistant Professor Mirko Svoboda, doctor of law, candidate of sciences, leading scientist in the Economics of the World Socialist System Institute, in the "Letter to the Editor" column: "About Currency Convertibility"—boldface passages as published]

[Excerpts] Moscow— **On 11 February 1988 RUDE PRAVO published an article by Ladislav Alster—"Prerequisites of Convertibility." Actually, this article tells the reader nothing about the prerequisites of convertibility. The former view that "currency convertibility must correspond to the convertibility of commodities" has been replaced, the article says, by a new one: that, "on the contrary, currency convertibility must contribute (naturally in addition to other instruments) to the presence of ample supplies of attractive goods on the market; fast and regular deliveries to industry and the citizens without any shortages or under-the-counter sales; accelerated innovation and modernization of industry; and a deeper international division of labor by means of increased foreign trade and other forms of cooperation, especially direct collaboration between enterprises." According to Comrade Alster, this is connected with a change in the USSR's stand on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the so-called World Bank (IBRD).**

Actually, the problems broached by L. Alster are far more complicated than this. It is impossible to separate currency convertibility from the material aspects and the demand to overcome the deficit in convertible goods. In keeping with the conclusions of the CEMA 43d (extraordinary) Session in Moscow, one is now working on a radical improvement of the common (collective) mechanism of financial and currency relations between CEMA member states. [passage omitted]

Particularly national currencies should in the future play a significant role in payment relations (based on developing direct relations between the organizations of CEMA member states) and in the establishment and operations of joint enterprises and organizations. The mutual convertibility of national currencies and their convertibility into collective currency (i.e. convertible ruble) is becoming a realistic prospect. However, the improvement of the financial-currency mechanism of

CEMA member states is not a short-term, isolated affair that can be resolved without connection with the restructuring of other appropriate links of national and international mechanism of CEMA member states (for instance, joint planning activities, price policy, foreign trade, and so forth).

As regards the problem of convertibility of the CEMA states' national currencies in relationship to the capitalist world, I believe that it is a lengthy affair—for all these currencies without exception. However, we should not turn this convertibility into a "fetish" or expect it to resolve all our problems in external economic relations.

Let me conclude by mentioning the USSR's stand on the IMF and IBRD, and the USSR's conditional interest in possible membership in these organizations, as L. Alster writes in his article. We know that the Soviet delegation signed the final documents of the Bretton Woods conference in June 1944—but the USSR did not become a member of these institutions. [passage omitted] "

In my view the claim about the mutual interlinkage of currency convertibility (specifically, that of the Soviet ruble) and the USSR's "changed attitude to the IMF and the World Bank," (as intimated by L. Alster) is completely without foundation. They are totally different matters. However, it is quite natural for the USSR to devote extraordinary attention to all issues of international cooperation, including international financial affairs. After all, as far back as the June CPSU Central Committee session, M. Gorbachev stated in the report on the "Party Tasks in the Basic Restructuring of Economic Management":

"In the present world no state can isolate itself from other states in the economic respect. Our country is no exception in this. The Soviet economy is part and parcel of the world economy. International trade, currency, and financial relations between the countries, as well as the latest scientific-technical transformations inevitably also affect (in one way or another) the situation in our own economy." (RUDE PRAVO 26 June 1987)

I think that these words also fully apply to us.

U.S. Blackmail Campaign Against Panama Decried

AU181335 East Berlin NATIONAL-ZEITUNG in German 18 Mar 88 p 2

[Michael Huettner commentary: "The CIA is Taking Aim at Panama"]

[Text] General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of Panama, condemned the actions of the United States and circles of the domestic oligarchy against the government of his country and stated that Panama would not submit to Washington's attempts at destabilization and blackmail. Noriega categorically rejected the decision of the Reagan Administration to block Panamanian accounts, resulting, for example, from canal fees, in U.S. banks and to suspend payments to the Latin American country. As a consequence of these restrictions, all banks in Panama had to be closed recently. The country got into difficulties with payments.

What is at the bottom of the latest events in connection with the Latin American country?

Giving in to the pressure of Panamanian reaction, former President Delvalle, a tool of Washington, ordered the dismissal of General Noriega. But this venture ended with Delvalle's dismissal by the Panamanian Parliament because he had allowed himself to be used as the figurehead of the forces of the right, and the appointment of a new, patriotic president, Manuel Solis Palma. The bourgeoisie reacted promptly: Its plan to destabilize the situation by a "general strike" was rejected by the people. Noriega is backed by the majority of the working people, the National Guard, and the National Council of the Organized Working People of Panama, which has 900,000 members.

Noriega and his adherents advocate a national course. In the past they did not permit themselves to be dragged into the aggression against Nicaragua either.

The imperialist pressure which is increasingly exerted on President Palma and General Noriege is not without reason: It is obviously connected with activities of certain circles to undermine the Panama Canal Treaties concluded with former President Torrijos in 1977, and to increase anew the Pentagon's presence in the Canal Zone. Because, according to the treaty, on 31 December 1999 Panama is to regain supremacy over the entire Canal Zone and the 10,000 members of the U.S. Army stationed there should have disappeared.

This is a thorn in Washington's side, just like Panama's foreign policy aimed at detente and a just peace—as President Palma and General Noriega have confirmed these days—as this country is one of the initiators of the Contadora peace process.

In view of this background it becomes apparent why a large-scale slander campaign is at present being conducted against General Noriege, which is obviously initiated by the CIA and published by U.S. papers. U.S. Vice President Bush even presumes to demand a warrant of arrest against Noriega and wants to have him abducted to the United States. Delvalle, who is probably hiding in a U.S. base, calls for the overthrow of the government. It is quite clear: The Delvalles and their string-pullers want to establish a government in Panama which is in bondage to the United States. Therefore, the controlled right wing of Panama attacks the government and openly calls for a "national crusade of citizens", in order to destabilize the country and to overthrow the government.

In Panama a perfect scenario for the overthrow of a government that is not convenient for the United States is being presented at the moment. A comment from London by THE TIMES: In the Central American country "scenes can be observed which bear a remarkable resemblance to the CIA campaign to destabilize the Chilean Unidad Popular Government more than 16 years ago." At that time it was planned to protest against Allende's policy by means of a "hunger march" and to blackmail the former Chilean president by economic pressure.

But today's Central America is, as is shown, no longer a "bunch of banana republics."

'Part-Time' GDR Intelligence Member Defects

LD181241 Hamburg DPA in German 1211 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Bonn (DPA)—Fritz Fuchs, deputy head of the GDR state transport firm Deutrans, has defected to the FRG. Competent authorities in Bonn confirmed to DPA on Friday that Fuchs made use of a business trip to the FRG to give himself up to the West German authorities. He is regarded as a "part-time" member of the intelligence service. Fuchs was primarily a businessman, it was said.

BILD newspaper reports in its Saturday edition that Fuchs knew all about GDR trucks which went on espionage missions to the FRG. He also knew secret venues for meetings of agents and courier routes. Fuchs has been in the FRG since early March. He also knew the sort of things GDR diplomats carried in their luggage. According to the FRG counterespionage service, around 3,000 Deutrans trucks transited the FRG each month.

Further Reportage of Leipzig Spring Fair

Meetings With Foreign Officials

AU181104 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar p 4

[Editorial report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German on 17 March carries on page 4 six reports, ranging from 50 to 300 words, on meetings of GDR politicians with foreign officials at the Leipzig Fair on 16 March.

The first (300 words) reports the meeting between Guenther Kleiber, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo, and Rudolf Rohlicek, first deputy premier of the CSSR Council of Ministers. "The interlocutors paid tribute to the successful development of the economic and scientific-technological relations, and of the overall fraternal cooperation between the two countries. The friendly meeting between Erich Honecker and Milos Jakes, the general secretaries of the two fraternal parties' Central Committees, has given important impulses to this."

The second report (300 words) deals with the meetings between Knud-Erik Tygesen, state secretary in the Danish Foreign Minister and GDR Foreign Trade Minister Beil; Hans-Joachim Lauck, minister of heavy machine construction and installation construction; and Bruno Lietz, minister of agriculture, forestry, and foodstuffs.

In the meeting with Foreign Trade Minister Beil it was stated that "the economic relations have developed positively. There are good preconditions for extending and developing them to mutual benefit."

With Hans-Joachim Lauck, Tygesen discussed the jointly achieved results and the possibilities of extending cooperation in the installation and equipment sector.

The third report (150 words) deals with the meeting between Foreign Trade Minister Beil and Swedish Communications Minister Sven Hulterstroem. Minister Hulterstroem reportedly paid tribute to the good, stable, and friendly relations between Sweden and the GDR, especially in the field of communications and in economic cooperation.

The fourth report (50 words) deals with the meeting between Foreign Trade Minister Beil and Ugandan Commerce Minister George Kanyeihamba. The interlocutors reportedly stressed that there are various possibilities of increasing the exchange of goods. For this purpose the necessary measures were coordinated.

The fifth report (50 words) deals with the meeting between Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Dietrich Lemke and Ilier Bocka, head of the Albanian Embassy in the GDR and charge d'affaires ad interim, as well as Albanian foreign trade representatives. Reportedly, measures on the implementation of the 1988 protocol and the extension of economic cooperatitn were discussed.

The sixth report (100 words) deals with the meeting between Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Jochen Steyer and his Vietnamese counterpart, Le Kim Lang, stating "Both sides will create the necessary preconditions to universally fulfill the 1988 protocol on mutual goods deliveries. Cooperation relations in the sector of light industry occupy a special position."

More Contracts Reported

AU181506 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 88 p 1

[Text] Leipzig (ND)—Also on Wednesday [16 March] lively activity in all lines of business characterized the Leipzig Spring Fair. GDR foreign trade enterprises again succeeded in concluding extensive contracts.

An agreement on the mutual supply of agricultural equipment, including swath forming mowers, field choppers [Feldhaecksler], potato-harvesting machines, tractors, and spare parts for the 1989-90 period was concluded between the foreign trade enterprise Progress Agricultural Machinery and the Soviet Traktoroexport enterprise. Important export contracts were concluded between Progress Agricultural Machinery and the British company Adam and Harvey. Agricultural equipment as well as machines for processing essential and non-essential foods was purchased by the French enterprise SMAFA S.A. Combine-harvesters, agricultural implements, special trailers, grain drills, and straw presses are also procured by FRG companies.

Important contracts for mutual supplies of rolled steel were concluded between the GDR's metallurgical industry and Poland's Stalexport in Katowice. They provide, among other things, for the export of roller bearing tubes and bright steel, as well as for the import of hot rolled strip [Warmband], thick plates, and deep-drawing sheet steel. The VEB TAKRAF Heavy Machine Building Combine in Leipzig will supply equipment for open-cast mining in Troyanovo in Bulgaria.

Import agreements signed by the GDR foreign trade enterprises provide for the procurement of power plant equipment from the PPR, and of camping and sports articles from Hungary. The import of the plants and equipment for the rationalization and modernization of the vehicle industry as well as for intensification measures of the GDR's chemical industry were agreed upon with companies from France, the FRG, the Netherlands, and Sweden.

The Electrical Engineering Export-Import foreign trade enterprise agreed on the supply of high-quality electronic equipment for message switching, teleprinting, and measuring technology from the VEB Telecommunications Combine to the Soviet Union in 1989. Last year the 5-millionth calling unit for the telephone network in the USSR was installed. For 4 years the combine has already been operating a telecommunications center in Moscow which also ensures the servicing of the GDR telecommunications equipment in the USSR.

The supply of sheet-fed offset printing machines in the 1988-89 period to the United States was agreed upon between the Polygraph foreign trade enterprise and the Royal Zenith Corp company.

An agreement on the export of electrotechnical equipment from the Automation Installation Construction and the "Hans Beimler" Locomotive Construction-Electrotechnical Works combines to Hungary was signed between Electrical Engineering Export Import and Hungary's Transelectro enterprise. In 1989 the GDR will purchase electric motors from Hungary.

RSA Plan To Execute Sharpesville 6 Scored

AU181440 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 88 p 1

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—On Wednesday [16 March] in Berlin Ambassador Wolfgang Meyer, spokesman of the GDR Foreign Ministry, condemned Pretoria's announcement to execute the six patriots from Sharpeville who have been sentenced to death in the course of this week, calling it planned judical murder. With its repeated cynical admission that the death sentences passed are not based on any proven criminal offense but only on public protests, Pretoria has unmasked them as ideological sentences. They are aimed at suppressing the struggle of South African democratic forces.

The GDR's citizens share the horror and the abhorrence of the international public which emphatically condemns the intended crimes, the spokesman declared. [passage omitted]

Schuerer Receives SFRY Trade Secretary

LD182057 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1244 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Berlin, 18 Mar (ADN)—Gerhard Schuerer, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission, on Friday in Berlin met with Nenad Krekic, SFRY federal secretary for foreign trade, who is staying in the GDR on a visit to the Leipzig spring fair.

During the friendly meeting it was stressed that the singleminded fulfillment of the agreements made during the official friendship visit to the SFRY by Erich Honecker, chairman of the GDR Council of State and general secretary of the SED Central Committee, in October 1985 has led to a clear expansion and intensification of bilateral relations, in particular in the economic sphere.

The high level of cooperation on the basis of coordinated 5-year plans is reflected in increasing specialization and cooperation in production, science, and research as well in the considerable volume of mutual trade.

The firm desire was stressed to go on expanding cooperation to the benefit of the two countries. In this matter, great importance attaches to the version of a "long-term program of economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the GDR and the SFRY to the year 2000" agreed during the official friendship visit to the GDR by Branko Mikulic, president of the SFRY FEC in December 1987. Afterwards, the Yugoslav ambassador gave a luncheon attended by Gerhard Schuerer and Nenad Krekic, as well as other figures.

CSSR Currency Exchange Restrictions Lifted

AU182137 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16 Mar 88 p 1

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The news agency of the State Bank reports:

During the talks between Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, and Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, on 10 March 1988, the development of tourist traffic of GDR and CSSR citizens was discussed. As a result, GDR citizens will be provided with Korunas for travel to the CSSR in accordance with the regulations that were valid up to 14 January 1988. Thus, there is no longer a maximum annual amount.

This regulation is valid as of 18 March 1988. Information is available from GDR State Bank branches and exchange offices.

Neumann Meets Greek Culture Minister

LD182130 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1411 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Berlin, 18 Mar (ADN)—The high level achieved in relations between the GDR and Greece was an example of good, understanding cooperation between states with different social systems. This was stated in Berlin Friday by Alfred Neumann, the deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, and Greece's Minister of Culture Melina Merkouri.

They stressed their agreement that there is a joint responsibility for securing peace in Europe and the world that must be fulfilled with commitment and great energy. Threats and confrontation that endanger everyone should be replaced by an irreversible, mutually advantageous process of disarmament and peaceful international cooperation.

It was a gratifying fact that, as a result of the Washington summit, a change for the better is beginning to be seen in international relations, a process that is actively supported by both states and promoted with initiatives of their own.

Alfred Neumann expressed his high regard for the personal commitment of Ms Merkouri to all peace-promoting actions—particularly those of the cultural workers in Greece—that were an important and valuable contribution to the securing of progress toward peace in the world.

Both sides expressed their conviction that there is a real basis for further deepening dialogue and bilateral cooperation, a basis upon which the deepening of cultural exchanges and fruitful cultural cooperation can be further pursued. During the talk Melina Merkouri delivered a personal letter from Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou to Erich Honecker.

On the same day, the Greek politician met with GDR Culture Minister Hans-Joachim Hoffmann on culture and art in the GDR and Greece, and on the further deepening and shaping of cultural relations between the two countries. Great attention would continue to be given to these relations, and effort put into their development.

The ministers agreed to work in the spirit of the Budapest CSCE cultural forum of November 1985 toward understanding between the two peoples and states through exchanges of art works, joint projects, experience, and consultation.

Honecker Greets Guadeloupe CP Leader

AU181549 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 88 p 2

[ND report: "Congratulations on Election to General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Guadeloupe"]

[Text] East Berlin (ND)—The SED Central Committee has sent the following congratulatory telegram signed by General Secretary Erich Honecker to Christian Celeste, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Guadeloupe:

Esteemed Comrade Celeste:

On your election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Guadeloupe, I convey most cordial congratulations to you on behalf of the SED Central Committee as well as on my own behalf.

I wish you much success and good health for your responsible activity aimed at the well-being of the people in Guadeloupe.

With communist greetings,

SED Central Committee , E. Honecker, general secretary.

June Meeting on Nuclear-Free Zones Praised

AU201555 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 88 p 2

["NG" commentary: "Useful and in Keeping With the Requirements of Our Time"]

[Text] The convening of an international meeting for nuclear-free zones in Berlin has met with strong response all over the world. Governments of socialist, nonaligned, and neutral states, international women's and youth organizations, political parties and trade union associations, peace movements and church representatives from many countries have voiced their approval of the conference scheduled for the middle of June. They all assess the GDR's initiative as useful and in keeping with the requirements of the time.

The idea to limit the nuclear arms race by setting up nuclear-free zones emerged more than 3 decades ago. It was explicitly mentioned for the first time in 1957 in the Warsaw Pact states' plan for a nuclear-free central Europe, the so-called Rapacki Plan. Later neutral and nonaligned countries took up the idea. In 1967 it became a reality in Latin America, and in 1985 in the South Pacific. At the same time a real network of projects aimed at keeping entire groups of states, continents, and oceans free from nuclear weapons or at eliminating them was created in many parts of the world. A large number of states and peoples are committed to this idea. It is the explicit concern of the Berlin meeting to provide a forum for them to voice their views. It wants to offer a venue for a candid exchange of views and experiences on nuclear-free regions, zones, and corridors, and on vital questions of mankind.

The particular topicality of the issue is also linked with the fact that a change for the better is beginning to be discernible in the international arena. With the signing of the INF treaty by the USSR and the United States on 8 December 1987, and with the planned halving of the strategic nuclear arsenals of the two superpowers the path of nuclear disarmament has been embarked on. It is the prime necessity of our time to extend it without delay to other spheres in Europe and other parts of the world. The creation of nuclear-free zones can be a significant contribution to this process. If a nuclear-free corridor was set up in central Europe, for example, as proposed by the GDR and CSSR, on border between Warsaw Pact and NATO, a 300 km-wide strip, short-range missiles and nuclear battlefield weapons would disappear. Thus a chance would emerge to set up a continuous nuclear-free zone extending from Scandinavia to the Balkans.

The consistent attitude of the GDR, which advocates a nuclear-free world and a secure peace, was recently made clear by Erich Honecker in his speech at the Premnitz Sythetic Fiber Works. He stated: "We are not impatient. Everything needs its own time. But we believe that one disarmament step should be followed by another so that

mankind will be free from nuclear weapons by the year 2000." The view that nuclear-free zones can be such a step is gaining importance all over the world.

This is the reason why the upcoming Berlin meeting has met with such great response among all those advocating liberation from nuclear weapons and why it has been welcomed as useful and in keeping with the requirements of our time.

Kessler Addresses Defense Ministry Conference

AU181113 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Mar 88 p 2

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)—Questions of how the means provided by the national economic plans for economically safeguarding national defense can be used most efficiently were the focal points of a scientific conference which took place in the Ministry of National Defense on Wednesday [16 March]. Participants were members of the collegium of the Defense Ministry, representatives of central party, state, and economic organs, and scientific institutions.

In his speech Army General Heinz Kessler, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense, referred to the task outlined in Erich Honecker's speech before the kreis first secretaries. It contains essential demands on the reliable protection of peace and socialism.

Proceeding from the consistent defensive character of the military doctrine of the Warsaw Pact states, the party and state leadership follows the principle of always doing what is necessary to safeguard security, he stressed. Thanks to the great performances of the GDR working people, the armed forces have always received the necessary means to ensure combat readiness in correspondence with danger. This imposes the obligation on the people's soldiers to use all available resources even more efficiently.

During the discussion the participants explained experiences in economically safeguarding national defense and drew conclusions for the further successful implementation of the tasks set by the 11th SED Congress.

Leaders Public Appearances 10-16 March

AU181505 [Editorial Report] East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German from 11 to 17 March reports the following public appearances of GDR leaders (date of publication in parentheses):

The following GDR politicians congratulated Werner Krolikowski, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers on his 60th birthday in Berlin on 12 March: Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council; Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; Horst Sindermann, chairman of the GDR People's Chamber; and the members and candidate members of the Politburo Hans-Joachim Boehme, Werner Eberlein, Werner Felfe, Kurt Hager, Joachim Herrmann, Werner Jarowinsky, Heinz Kessler, Egon Krenz, Siegfried Lorenz, Erich Mielke, Erich Mueckenberger, Alfred Neumann, Harry Tisch, Inge Lange, Gerhard Mueller, Gerhard Schuerer, and Werner Walde (14 March, p 2).

The following GDR politicians attended a gala concert on the occasion of the opening of the Leipzig Spring Fair in Leipzig on 12 March: Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council; Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; Horst Sindermann, president of the GDR People's Chamber; and Politburo members Joachim Herrmann, Werner Jarowinsky, Egon Krenz, and Gerhard Schuerer (14 March, p 2).

Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, was awarded the CSSR Order of the White Lion First Class with Gold Chain and gave a speech thanking CPCZ Central Committee General Secretary Milos Jakes for this honor in Berlin on 10 March (11 March, p 2).

Willi Stoph, Politburo member and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received outgoing Zambian ambassador Fine Mushaukwa Liboma in Berlin on 16 March (17 March, p 2).

Werner Felfe, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, received a delegation from the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party in Berlin on 15 March (16 March, p 2).

Kurt Hager, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee heads a Central Committee delegation that arrived in Ulaanbaatar on 15 March (16 March, p 2).

Werner Jarowinsky, Politburo member and secretary of the SED Central Committee, conveyed the Central Committee's greetings to Central Committee Department Head Hilmar Weiss, member of the SED Central Auditing Commission, on his 60th birthday and awarded him the Fatherland Order of Merit in Gold in Berlin on 11 March (12-13 March, p 2).

Army General Heinz Kessler, Politburo member and GDR Defense Minister, spoke at a scientific conference in the Ministry of National Defense in Berlin on 16 March (17 March, p 2).

Guenther Kleiber, Politburo member, secretary of the SED Central Committee, and deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, received Rudolf Rohlicek, CSSR first deputy premier, in Leipzig on 16 March (17 March, p 2).

Werner Krolikowski, Politburo member and first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, attended a reception given by Faysal Summaq, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Syrian Arab Republic to the GDR, on the occasion of the Syrian national day in Berlin on 10 March (11 March, p 2).

Harry Tisch, Politburo member and chairman of the FDGB National Executive Council, spoke at a conference at the "Fritz Heckert" Trade Union College in Bernau on 11 March (12-13 March, p 2).

Werner Walde, candidate member of the Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the SED Cottbus Bezirk Leadership, attended an FDJ forum in the "Herbert Warnke" Chemical Fiber Works in Wilhelm-Pieck-Stadt Guben on 10 March (11 March, p 2).

Werner Walde received a delegation of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, headed by Najmoddin Kawiani, in Cottbus on 11 March (12-13 March, p 2).

Budapest Comments on Gorbachev Visit to SFRY
LD201115 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0905 GMT 20 Mar 88

["Seven Days of Five Continents" program]

[Text] In a speech made in the capital of Yugoslavia, Mikhail Gorbachev proposed a freeze then a reduction of the present number of Soviet and U.S. naval forces in the Mediterranean. Perhaps an even more important element of his visit, however, is the more precise determination of the character of bilateral relations, in the Soviet-Yugoslav joint declaration, which applies also in general to relations between the socialist countries. Peter Nyaradi covered the visit to Belgrade.

[Nyaradi] Is it possible to plan beforehand how successful an event should be? I asked myself this question on the train home from Belgrade. I was thinking about just this, since in the time preceeding Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Yugoslavia there was a feeling in the air that this would be something different, that many things would happen differently, be said differently, from the earlier visits to Yugoslavia by previous Soviet leaders.

The person of Mikhail Gorbachev really did captivate the Yugoslavs. I could see this myself many times on the streets, when elderly Bosnian peasants cheered him just as loudly as young bespectacled intellectuals wearing neckerchiefs. But this in itself is no guarantee of the success of bilateral talks.

Perhaps the main reason why everyone expected this meeting to be different, better, more successful than earlier ones, is that the Soviet leadership has, in recent times, very openly probed into more than one painful historical issue. In Yugoslav-Soviet relations, the events of 1948 still count as painful points, and those who expected changes in this area were not disappointed. Mikhail Gorbachev established, with great self-criticism, that at the time of the Cominform, the Soviet leadership made unjust accusations about the leaders of the Yugoslav Communist party and this caused great damage, not only for the two sides, but for the whole cause of socialism in general. This honest opinion determined the atmosphere of the talks, for apart from this painful point there is no difference of opinion between the two countries. What is more, in most areas cooperation is very good.

This can also be said about the economy, although here, in the past few years, a standstill, a stagnation has come about. But the Soviet leader met his Yugoslav partners on this question too, acknowledging that the falling behind, deriving from outmoded trading, is not primarily the fault of the Yugoslavs.

As regards the latest Soviet supplementary disarmament proposal voiced in Belgrade, the Soviet initiative affects the Mediterranean countries. However, it was also addressed to NATO and the United States. For this reason it received the appropriate attention. It is another question that since the Soviet Union does not have any land bases on the Mediterranean and the United States does, a possible withdrawal does not have the same importance for the two superpowers. All the same, it can be said that the Soviet Union has made a significant step, underlining its prestige and willingness to talk, directed toward countries outside this area bloc.

On the personal side of the visit, during the relatively long 5-day visit, the Soviet leader and his wife had a thorough opportunity to see the life and natural beauty of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Gorbachev Greets Kadar From Aircraft
LD182005 Budapest MTI in English 1742 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 18 (MTI)—Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CC of the CPSU on his return way to Moscow from Yugoslavia, sent a greeting telegram from aboard the plane, to Janos Kadar, general secretary of the HSWP.

"Flying over the Hungarian People's Republic I send my cordial greetings to you, the Central Committee of the HSWP, and to all communists of the friendly country. I wish the further strengthening of the friendship of the two parties and the two nations."

Kulikov Suggests Meeting With NATO's Galvin
LD202203 Budapest MTI in English 2038 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 20 (MTI)—Marshal Kulikov, commander-in-chief of the Joint Armed Forces of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, spoke about the current defensive doctrine of the Warsaw Treaty in a Hungarian TV programme aired Sunday evening under the title "Face to Face."

Marshal Kulikov emphasized 'the military doctrine of the Soviet state has always been of a defensive nature. The point of the doctrine can be summed up as follows: Struggle for disarmament and for the averting of wars waged with nuclear or conventional weapons and, if enemy aggression necessitates, the striking of an annihilating blow. I would emphasize that there are some specific features in the defence of all member states. This is very important...The principle, however, is quite the same: Reasonable sufficiency and the unconditional defense of socialist achievements and peace.

'All are interested in what we mean under the principle of the reasonable sufficiency of armed forces. There is only one answer: That is sufficient that reliably guarantees the security of all states, the defence of each state separately and that of the Warsaw Treaty member states as a whole.'

Daniel Projektor, the other participant in the programme, who, as a senior staff member of the Moscow Institute for International Relations, had taken a part in the elaboration of the new Soviet security policy, added; 'the document approved in Berlin emphasizes again for the whole world that the Warsaw Treaty member states including, of course, the Soviet Union have no wrongful intents whatsoever towards any country of the world. We are aware how important it is to stress this on military level.'

Marshal Kulikov then spoke about the NATO bloc: 'While our doctrine expresses the principle of sufficiency and its main feature lies in its defensive nature, the leaders of the NATO bloc seek to take a stand for the doctrine of flexible reaction and the principle of superiority of power.'

Concerning the meeting of the military leaders of the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO, Viktor Kulikov said 'Now, when NATO has appointed a new north European commander-in-chief, General Galvin, it would be useful to meet him. For the time being, however, the other side does not seem to strive for this...It would be more easier for us than for the diplomats to find more acceptable contact points and define more precisely imbalance and asymmetry in the existing armed forces and in other issues that stand perhaps closer to the profession of soldiers,' the commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Treaty Joint Armed Forces said in the Hungarian television.

Cabinet Spokesman Meets Press 10 Mar

AU180954 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 11 Mar 88 pp 1,5

[Unattributed report on press conference held by Government Spokesman Rezso Banyasz on 10 March: "Council of Ministers Holds Meeting—Debate on Modernizing the System of Pensions and Social Security—Fate of Paks Radioactive Waste"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Hungarian Radio correspondent: Is it now realistic to endeavor to make social security independent and support itself? [passage omitted]

[Banyasz] The process of social security becoming really independent of the state budget can only be a continuous and lasting process. The separation of social security from the state budget will formally become effective on 1 January 1989. However, this, is only a financial-technical issue. Defining the real content of financial independence and asserting the rights, requirements, and responsibilities related to this independence can only develop in the long term.

The Council of Ministers also held a long debate on whether it is possible and necessary to establish different alternative insurance and social security systems, institutions and organizations; and these possibilities are being examined from many angles. It is conceivable that conditions will develop to allow the establishment of one alternative or the other.

As regards the inclusion of invisible incomes in social security accounting, I think that we should ensure that supplementary incomes which have been earned honestly, and which can therefore be accepted by society, should also be adequately reflected in the social security system. [passage omitted]

VESZPREMI NAPLO: Currently it is often said that, in order to promote public consensus, it is necessary to accelerate the dialogue with so-called dissenters. Who are these dissenters? Do they have a forum? How far ahead is the dialogue with them?

[Banyasz] I think that theoretically or politically it is almost impossible to define who a dissenter is. I myself often think differently from the writer of an article in one of our dailies and yet we are still, or can be, very good friends.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers repeatedly stressed that the government is prepared to hold dialogues with whoever has wise, useful, and honorable thoughts, proposals, and concepts on ways to build our country more efficiently, to make our society healthier, and to create a more active and democratic public life. The prime minister's regular exchanges of opinion with representatives of various strata of the population that were held in the past and will also be held in the near future attest to this endeavor. That is, the government lacks neither good will nor tolerance toward the opinions of other people. Naturally, we also require every citizen and, let me add, every foreign citizen on Hungarian soil to respect our Constitution and our socialist social order.

MAGYARORSZAG: At the end of last week, a group calling itself a democratic forum convened at the Budapest Jurta Theater. What did they discuss and what is the government's opinion on this event?

[Banyasz] I would start by saying that the government is not aware of any organization by this name. However, we are also aware that people—mainly members of the intelligentsia—gather at various places and in various groups and hold debates on the country's situation, difficulties and troubles. In our experience, a sober and responsible atmosphere usually prevails at these gatherings. The participants in these debates also contribute useful ideas to economic and social development. Occasionally, however, extremist and irresponsible elements also gain the floor at these gatherings, elements that want to create a disturbance and who give free course to expressions reflecting nationalist and racial prejudices, like, for example, expressions against gypsies. We reject

and condemn these expressions most decisively. The government is aware that there are also people who would like to disturb the worthy commemoration of our National Day on 15 March.

DUNANTULI NAPLO: On behalf of DUNANTULI NAPLO, allow me to inform you about a sense of restlessness and concern felt by the Feked-Ofalu area in the South Dunantul region since they received news about current plans to construct a burial site for waste materials from the Paks nuclear power station in this area. Many kinds of gossip and rumors have also aroused the inhabitants' tempers. I would like you to help DUNANTULI NAPLO report responsibly to our readers about whether this investment project will really guarantee their continued peacefulness and safety.

[Banyasz] We are aware of this fear, and I think DUNANTULI NAPLO acted very responsibly when it drew attention to the concerns and fears of this village and area. In the course of my inquiries so far, I succeeded in establishing the following: Only one nuclear power plant operates in Hungary, at Paks. The most dangerous radioactive isotopes produced at Paks are shipped back to the Soviet Union, where they are then neutralized under adequately safe conditions. In the past we had to see to the disposal of radioactive waste materials with low- or medium-level radiation in Hungary, and still have to do so at present. Several sites have been considered as storage areas for waste materials from the Paks nuclear power station that remain in Hungary and are less dangerous. The decision on the need to continue further research in the Ofalu area took into consideration the opinions of the relevant authorities, of the local council organs, and of the committee of experts established by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. [passage omitted]

Gaspar Comments on PRC Visit

AU181006 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 12 Mar 88 p 3

[Interview with Sandor Gaspar, member of the MSZMP Politburo and chairman of the National Trade Union Council, by Ferenc Szalay, deputy chief editor of NEPSZAVA: "A Genuine Trade Union Movement Is of Prime Interest to Socialist Society—Interview With Sandor Gaspar on the Experiences of the National Trade Union Council Delegation in the PRC;" date and place not given]

[Excerpts] A National Trade Union Council [SZOT] delegation recently visited the PRC at the invitation of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions. The delegation's visit was the culmination of a process, started in the eighties after a long breakdown, to restore Hungarian and Chinese trade unions relations. The Hungarian delegation was briefed on PRC trade unions activities and their role in the emerging economic and social processes. The Hungarian delegation also analyzed PRC trade unions' work under the renewing conditions of socialist construction.

Ferenc Szalay interviewed Sandor Gaspar, head of the SZOT delegation, about his visit to the PRC. [passage omitted]

[Szalay] Is there a change in the trade unions' position in the Chinese society, their attitude to the party, the government, and to the other social organizations?

[Gaspar] [Passage omitted] In the course of reorganization, the role of the trade union movement, its potentials, and scope were already considered in a really new manner. We had an opportunity to hold talks with Comrade Zhao Ziyang, CPC general secretary, who said that the CPC is also dealing with the important subject which currently surfaces in practically every socialist country: the subject of perfecting the system of political institutions, interpreting and perfecting the leading role of the party in a modern manner, and correctly separating state work from party work. Reinterpreting the role of the trade union movement is also a part of this process. The Chinese leaders had also recognized that the party cannot continue working in the old way nor is it possible to carry out trade union work in the old manner. I can give an example which illustrates this: For quite a while Ni Zhifu, chairman of the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, had two jobs, serving as party secretary of a considerable area and, at the same time, chairman of the trade unions.

The awareness, therefore, exists and the Chinese would like to fill the trade union movement with new substance. This, naturally is not easy for our Chinese comrades, either. It would perhaps not be immodest to say that the Chinese highly appreciate the new kind of thinking that has prevailed in the MSZMP since 1956 about the way it corrected mistakes and interpreted the role of the trade unions. Our book, published here under the title "The Role of the Hungarian Trade Unions in Socialist Construction," is also used as a textbook, which has naturally been adapted for Chinese conditions and specific experiences. Since Lenin's principles on trade unions is practically unchanged in the last 70 years—on the contrary, they lost ground—everything that is modern arouses interest. This is also part of the Chinese affection for the Hungarian trade unions.

The need to fill the work done by the trade unions with new substance is therefore part of the CPC endeavors. Our Chinese colleagues also recognized what we had been saying for a long time, that the trade union movement is not a mere decoration for power in society or a handkerchief to be carried in a vest pocket for decoration. The trade union movement is a partner of power in society and a factor in generating and shaping policy. That is, the role of the trade union movement is not only one of collaboration in implementing a given policy.

Transmission in the sense Lenin used the word has for many decades been falsified and interpreted in a distorted manner—which we have also done—but it is now being reshaped according to its original meaning. By expressing the hopes, will, and aims of the workers and transmitting power in both directions, this transmission plays a role in the formulation of policy and at the same time, through its own means and its characteristically specific methods, conveys political efforts to the masses. Our Chinese colleagues are endeavoring to restore this situation. [passage omitted]

[Szalay] What specific details were of particularly interest to the Hungarian delegation?

[Gaspar] In fact, I have already mentioned these details. Among the Chinese endeavors at modernization, there is also a particularly noteworthy phenomenon, the fact that the Chinese treat ownership relations very flexibly. Good coexistence also prevails among several ownership forms. At the same time this is a specific problem for the trade union movement; the way to handle this problem, so to say, was not specified in the scenario. This also has to be learned. Moreover, every socialist country may sooner or later find itself face to face with this phenomenon.

[Szalay] The delegation visited several factories in Beijing and the provinces and the special economic zone. The delegation members also had several opportunities to talk directly with factory workers.

[Gaspar] Efforts by the trade unions and the movement to find a true place in factories and enterprises are perceived accurately in these places. The trade unions have prepared a well-trained cadre of trade union people who, by means of thinking and deliberation, are seeking promising solutions and are not waiting for someone to tell them what their opinion will be.

[Szalay] According to my information, you also held talks about the international trade union movement. The leaders of the Chinese trade unions signaled that they would participate in WFTU events more actively in the future.

[Gaspar] The activities aimed at reorganizing the trade unions within the framework of liquidating the Cultural Revolution naturally aroused the interest of the international trade union movement. The trade union movement of a country with a population of over 1 billion people—the number of organized workers is proportional to this size—is clearly a decisive factor.

The trade union movement is not a decisive factor in the sense that it would like to shape an international organization after itself. The trade unions have reached the conclusion that the revolutionary workers movement only acknowledges orders of magnitude but does not recognize them. It recognizes only real value, only what the movement creates and produces. And these are not related to size. The trade unions also made such a mistake: At the time, they wanted to shape the WFTU after themselves. During my recent visit I noticed a spirit of openness, sincerity, and honesty, a spirit that is specific to a real workers movement; we must never permit this spirit to get lost. Whether it is small or on the order of magnitude of billions, every country can, however, contribute to enriching the experiences of the international workers movement and of the trade union movement.

As regards the WFTU, the Chinese partners often said that they are an open organization and endeavor to establish good relations with every trade union including participation in WFTU events. Moreover, since the SZOT chairman is also the president of WFTU, our delegation was perceived as an official WFTU delegation. Therefore, a process which can enrich the experiences of us all and the experiences of the trade union movement started here, too.

Pal Returns From Ulaanbaatar Conference

LD190001 Budapest MTI in English
1638 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 18 (MTI)—The delegation of the HSWP Central Committee returned from Ulaanbaatar, which, headed by CC Secretary Lenard Pal, participated at the meeting of the CC secretaries in charge of ideological questions from the socialist countries' fraternal parties. He was accompanied by Janos Barabas, deputy department head of the CC.

Polish Technical Delegation Visits

LD201847 Budapest MTI in English
1751 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 20 (MTI)—A Polish technical delegation paid a visit to Hungary from March 14 to 20 at the invitation of the Federation of Hungarian Technical and Scientific Associations (MTESZ). Professor Marek Roman, deputy president of the Polish Supreme Technical Organization, and Kazimierz Wawrzyniak, general secretary, held talks with Janos Toth, MTESZ general secretary, on experiences in cooperation between the two partner organizations and the development of relations. It was established that the Polish and Hungarian engineers' organizations seek to promote technical and scientific cooperation first of all in the fields of mining, energetics, the engineering and chemical industries, construction industry, transport, telecommunications, agriculture and forestry. The two organizations are to set up a joint working committee to exchange experience in, and possibilities for, technical development.

The delegation visited the Gyor-based Raba railway carriage and machine works, and the Hungarian optical works in Budapest, and studied experiences in the Hungarian economic reform and the material and moral incentives provided for technical professionals.

National Assembly Continues Session 16 Mar

Justice Minister's Address

AU161151 Budapest MTI in English
1510 GMT 16 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 16 (MTI)—The spring session of the Hungarian Parliament ended discussions on the road transport bill at 3 p.m., Wednesday. The 13 contributions were replied by Transport Minister Lajos Urban, and then the bill was enacted by voting.

According to the agenda, Justice Minister Imre Markoja submitted the bill on the amendment of the Law No. 3 of 1971. He said that the principle of the cooperative law is that the cooperative belongs to the members who decide on internal matters including the cooperative self-management. To this end the basic statutes should be indispensable determining factors in the internal life of the cooperatives. However, at present this principle is not being put into practice consistently. The detailed regulations on the cooperatives hamper decisionmaking, and as a result, the fundamental statutes are not fully effective.

In order to avoid these problems the bill rules that in the future the cooperative decides—in the statutes—on regular meetings of representatives, besides the general assembly. The general assembly is free to decide on turning to another branch or to another cooperative formation. If the cooperative forms two or more cooperatives or some members set up a new cooperative, the bill allows for court ruling on the question of dividing assets if legal claims are violated.

The bill permits that the cooperative may extend its sphere of activity without amendment of the statutes and confirming approval of the organ involved in the legal supervision. With small cooperatives the general rule is that the cooperative may enter any activities which are not by law under the exclusive activity of the state organs.

The bill—as a new form—permits the formation of small-producers' cooperatives. The aim is to coordinate activities of members, to support it with extension service, tools and means of production, and maintenance and operation of premises.

Finance Minister's Visit

LD172242 Budapest MTI in English
1728 GMT 17 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 17 (MTI)—Following [as received], Minister of Finance Miklos Villanyi informed the MP's on the initial experience of the introduction of the tax system and the related price problems and the questions of the production start early this year. As he said, this year's economic processes still cannot be judged properly, and detailed report is only possible at the summer session of the parliament.

He recalled that according to the published economic figures of the last year, improvement was observed in several important fields of the economy. The production rate increased, budget deficit decreased, and blance of trade and current accounts were better then in the preceeding year. In the trade with socialist countries the terms of trade shifted in favour of Hungary and in the hard currency trade after years of deterioration terms remained stable. The extent and rate of improvement is, however, insufficient. The speeded production increase was based primarily on the growth of the domestic consumption. The range of competitive products barely increased and the rate of development in improving the structure of the hungairan economy is still slow.

The figures on the first two months of 1988 indicate that even if without the end of year impetus, production is in order without major hitches. Industrial output exceeds the previous year's figure by 1.3 per cent, and last year there was a hard winter and this year it was mild. At the beginning of this year the economic processes were naturally influenced by last year's hoarding fever. In the first two months—at comparative prices—retail trade fell by 9-10 per cent. The sinking of the public's saving deposits was stopped, and even if by a much smaller than usual rate, deposits increased. The budget deficit in the first two months is also much smaller than it was a year ago.

Until now hard currency foreign trade has been developing favourably. In the first two months of this year, as compared to the figures of previous years, exports increased substantially, while imports remained at last year's level, and the foreign trade deficit is only one-third of previous year's level.

The rouble-relation market ready imports should be increased in order to avoid obstructions in increasing exports.

On the evaluation of the new tax system Miklos Villanyi said, that the change-over did not trigger major standstills and the introduced tax system is workable. Replacing price tags was completed. The workers of the companies and institutions received grossed wages, and personal income tax advance payments have been withheld.

The general turnover tax is being paid in the appropriate magnitude and those eligible for return are filing claims in. Social security payments are in order.

It is undeniable that functional disorders occur—he said—adding that it was by no means government intention that in the change-over period more than the seasonally usual number of private craftsmen and retailers suspended or occasionally closed their businesses.

Along with tax reforms the structure of both producer and consumer prices were radically changed. The net margin and withdrawals in producer prices—especially

in the processing industries has decreased. The price level difference in consumer and producer price levels increased substantially. In the changes of the price system a 3.3 per cent decrease in industrial prices was projected, but in reality industrial producer price levels were barely reduced in January. More than two-thirds of the consumer goods' prices changed. The impact of these changes on price levels is close to the planned 7.6 per cent, since January consumer price levels exceed those of December 1987 by 8 per cent.

The socially most criticized and debated subject in the tax and price reforms is the tremendous increase in children and especially in baby clothing.

Upon government measures and occasional company initiatives the unproportionally high prices were or are to be reduced. This will alleviate price strains, but the social need is unchanged for mitigation of financial problems associated with child raising.

He also emphasized that the result of efforts related to price developments lies with production. The price changes effected early this year fail to challenge the reality of this year's price plan, the 15 per cent consumer price increase. The government took liability not to take central decisions which would create price increases above planned levels and by state, economic interventions, stimulation of supply and observation of the present price rules, it will set a limit to the price rises. In taking action against unfounded price increases the government is asking for the cooperation of the social organizations and the public.

Miklos Villanyi said that six MP's passed a motion to the speaker of the house in which they request the foundation of a separate financial fund for supporting foreigners who wish to settle in Hungary. The Council of Ministers already dealt with the handling of the affairs of foreign citizens residing in Hungary. Recently an interministerial committee was set up to this end which has started operation. The government agrees with the proposal of the MPS and—at the expense of other projects—a 300 million forints fund is planned to be turned to this end. In the name of the government I'm asking the approval of the parliament—said finally Miklos Villanyi.

The National Assembly noted the report of the minister of finance. Following, the foundation of 300 million forints settlement fund was approved—according to the report of the Ministry of Finance—with 12 against and 10 abstentions.

Agriculture Minister's Report

LD172233 Budapest MTI in English
1512 GMT 17 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 17 (MTI)—On Thursday Jeno Vancsa, minister of agriculture and food, presented the bill on the amendment of the Fourth Food Law of 1976 at the spring session of Hungarian Parliament.

In the period from 1960 to 1970 Hungary's food production doubled and again increased almost twofold from 1970 to the present day, Jeno Vancsa said. Its growth rate even exceeded agricultural production. In recent years the branch has accounted for 17-18 per cent of the overall industrial output. In production value, it follows the machine and chemical industries, ahead of mining and the light and electric industries.

The food industry processes 65 per cent of Hungarian agricultural products, a figure which corresponds to the performance of countries with medium levels of development, but lags behind the economically advanced countries, he said and added that 40 per cent of total personal consumption (including alcoholic drinks, tobacco, coffee and tea) is covered by the food industry, which provides approximately 60 per cent of agricultural exports of major importance for the national balance of payments.

Jeno Vancsa stressed that the past decade has seen major changes in the organization of food industrial companies: The majority of food industrial trusts have been dissolved, and the companies of the grain and milk trusts have been given greater independence. The main cause for the closure of trusts was lack of mobility, restricted company autonomy and monopolic attitude to partners. The newly established firms are better adapted to local conditions, and their performance has increased.

Food processing activity at large-scale farms has also increased. Their proportion in state food production rose from 8.7 per cent in 1976 to 20 per cent last year. A particular upswing in food industrial activity has been recorded with state farms.

The proposed amendments reflect the spirit of greater company autonomy and are in accordance with endeavours for economic management reform, said the minister.

The most important part of the law amendment concerns the system and methods of quality control. In adjustment to international experience, there is considerable simplification and more consistent control in this field.

Certification of product quality will be the responsibility of the manufacturer, instead of the official organization.

Jeno Vancsa pointed out early this year food prices rose considerably after the discontinuation of state subsidy. This causes serious problems mainly to low-income people, large families and low-paid pensioners. The government expects food consumption to remain stable or to slightly increase. There will be adequate smooth supply of all food products, first of all basic foodstuffs.

The commodity fund for this year's increase in food exports and the fulfillment of domestic demand is to be created by the agricultural sector, said Jeno Vancsa.

The National Assembly adopted the bill and the four amendments submitted and voted by the deputies and parliamentary committees with one counter-vote and one abstention.

Session Finishes Work

LD172248 Budapest MTI in English 2016 GMT 17 Mar 88

[Text] Budapest, March 17 (MTI)—On Friday, at the spring session of the National Assembly, Emil Pejak MP from Budapest and executive secretary of the Budapest Council of the Patriotic People's Front made a motion to the formulation of a law on nationalities. Among other things, he pointed out, that the legal system realizing the policy of the Hungarian People's Republic reflects in the framework of accomplishment of socialist democratism the development of the Hungarian nationality relations and the realization of the Leninist nationality policy. For the time being there is no law level, deserving regulation of these rules. Besides the constitutional paragraphs of the regulations related to this subject in the different orders are scattered, fragmented, and articles associated with nationalities are to be found in several, different level regulations.

Emil Pejak also said, that at present the rulings apply different principles, since for instance the Constitution defines the national minority rights as civil right, and in other regulations the ethnical, communal relations of the nationalities serve as principles of order. In the present proposed Nationality Bill the basic legal titles should be regulated for the nationalities as communities and beside this conditions and ways further developed for the enforcement of individual rights. In the law the theoretical principle of the legal regulation of the nationality relations should be cleared—said the MP referring to two concepts, ie. state sovereignty, the principle of non-interference and the international agreements, and the principles of internationalism, democratism and humanism.

'The policy of the Hungarian People's Republic follows this latter concept and emphasizes the bridge-role of the national minorities in the fraternal coexistence between the neighbouring countries. This should be regulated in the law'—said Emil Pejak. He proposed to regulate in the law the ways of making nationality organizations, the questions of cultural life, education, publishing, dissemination of knowledge, and the transmissions of the radio, television. The ban on accelerating assimilation would have to be declared. A higher state organ dealing with nationality issues is worth considering—said Emil Pejak.

Responding to the proposed bill of Emil Pejak, the minister of justice, Imre Markoja, emphasized that for decades the Hungarian state has attributed great importance to the shaping of a nationality policy which considers the domestic features and at the same time falling in line with international requirements and agreements, and in the practical implementation results were achieved which were not negligible.

Imre Markoja on behalf of the government assured support for the proposal of Emil Pejak: To study the question of creating a unified nationality law. In this context the minister of justice asked the MPs to be able to inform parliament on the—most probably positive—stance of the Council of Ministers. In determining the date it was considered that this year the congresses of the nationality unions will be started and completed. The government wants to make use of the opinions and suggestions of these meetings in the preparation of the bill. It is also an important circumstance that preparations are to be started this year for reforming the constitution.

The proposal to make a bill read by Emil Pejak was unanimously approved by the National Assembly.

With this the spring session of the National Assembly finished its work.

Grosz Assesses Debate

AU181146 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 17 Mar 88 p 3

[Interview with Premier Karoly Grosz by Ferenc L.Gazso: "There Is Need for Long-Term Programs"—in the Parliament on 16 March]

[Text] Further proposals and arguments clearly supporting the draft bill were voiced in the debate that followed the address of Transport Minister Lajos Urban. This National Assembly is not like the one in the fall of 1987 when the atmosphere heated up every half an hour. We conveyed this impression to Premier Karoly Grosz at the beginning of the lunch break.

[Grosz] This debate is useful even if it is not spectacular. Indeed, there is an atmosphere of support for the draft law in the meeting. I even mentioned to people sitting around me that the transport minister will reply to the debate from an advantageous position because the various speakers have submitted many intelligent proposals. In my opinion, the fact that a 2-year period of thorough professional preparation had preceded this day is the reason that there are no serious differences of opinion concerning the draft bill.

[Gazso] One can hear voices among the public that wonder why Parliament is discussing the law on public road transportation exactly now when we are obviously facing more difficult national problems than the problem of public road transportation. Indeed, is this now the most urgent problem facing the country?

[Grosz] No, it is not. But it is the natural order of life that we should not deal exclusively with our daily problems. The time has come to settle the issue of public road

transportation by law, and this issue has a worthy place on the agenda of the National Assembly. The program in question is a long-term one. I would consider it a mistake in the government activity too if our work agenda consisted of nothing else but finding solutions to daily problems. We need long-term programs, and this draft bill summarizes the lessons of a road covered. All this does not means that, while we are in session, we do not take our pressing problems in consideration at all.

[Gazso] What do you mean?

[Grosz] According to the agenda of the meeting, Finance Minister Miklos Villanyi's will submit his report on the second day of the session, and it will deal with our economic situation, the mood of the enterprises, and with issues that concern all of us, like, for example, the experiences related to the introduction of the tax system. Already on the first day of the meeting it is almost certain that this National Assembly session will not be a session of single measures. This, however, does not exclude the possibility of passing decisions on important issues, including single matters. I am referring here to the settlement fund which will also be discussed on the second day of the session.

[Gazso] If you have already mentioned this issue, many people would, no doubt, be interested in knowing how we will secure the funds for this?

[Grosz] This is the task of the government, and it would be a mistake to improvise an answer here. The winter session of the National Assembly decided on the state budget, and thus, it cannot be changed arbitrarily. When we decide on this issue, we will have to reconsider the closed system of the budget.

[Gazso] The new type of relations between the National Assembly and the government, relations that you have spoken about in several forums, are an organic part of the institutional reform. In your opinion, where is this process moving, if it is moving at all?

[Grosz] There are harmonious relations between the National Assembly and the government. The number of consultations has increased and there has been a series of dialogues where the ministers exchange views with various groups of deputies on a mutual basis. The activity of the Parliamentary Secretariat contributes to these close relations. This cooperation is conducted in a good spirit and places our work on a good foundation and strengthens it.

Gorbachev Visit to SFRY, Communique Assessed

AU211138 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 19-20 Mar 88 pp 1, 9

[Zbigniew Falecki dispatch: "Mikhail Gorbachev Ends Visit to Yugoslavia"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The Soviet-Yugoslav declaration that was signed during Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Belgrade states that the SFRY and the USSR, and the CPSU and the LCY, are continually striving to improve cooperation, enrich its content, and stimulate the development of friendly relations between the two socialist states.

The two sides stressed the historic role and lasting value of the universal principles contained in the Belgrade (1955) and Moscow (1956) Declarations, that is, mutual respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, equality, and the impermissibility of interference in internal affairs under whatever pretext. The USSR and the SFRY will continue to be guided by these principles; they are building and improving their relations guided by unconditional respect for the different paths and forms of their socialist development and the differences in their positions in the international arena. On the basis of the significant achievements in economic cooperation that have been accomplished, the USSR and the SFRY will strive to bring about the more extensive introduction of modern forms of economic cooperation and of specialization and collaboration on a long-term basis. These goals are also being served by the long-term program for cooperation until the year 2000, and the participation of organizations in both states in the implementation of the comprehensive program for scientific and technical cooperation within the CEMA framework. Both sides will continue to devote particular attention to political dialogue at the highest level and will stimulate direct, concrete cooperation between political and social organizations in the Soviet and Yugoslav republics and between districts, towns, and groups of employees, as well as mutual contacts between citizens.

The two sides consider improving socialist self-government in line with the specific features of both countries a matter of first-rank importance. Self-government ensures real democracy and individual freedom and provides a steadfast guarantee against administrative and bureaucratic perversions of socialism and against dogmatism and arbitrariness.

In the declaration, the CPSU and LCY affirmed the universal significance of democratic principles in relations between communist, workers, socialist, social-democratic, and revolutionary-democratic parties, and other progressive parties and movements; these principles are based on their permanent right to make independent decisions about the path of social development that they choose.

The declaration states that dialogue was strengthened by the meeting of representatives of parties and movements that took place in Moscow on the occasion of 70th anniversary of the October Revolution and the constructive exchange on the most important contemporary issues that took place there in a new, democratic climate.

The declaration stresses the important role in the contemporary world of the policy of nonalignment, whose goal is peace and security for all, equality and mutual understanding, the surmounting of existing divisions, and respect for political and economic independence, and for the dignity of all countries and peoples. The policy of nonalignment is directed against imperialism, colonialism, and apartheid, and against all forms of aggression, interference, domination, hegemony, and all restrictions on international economic cooperation. The document devotes a large amount of space to world security and aversion of the danger of a nuclear catastrophe. This process was initiated by the USSR-U.S. treaty on the elimination of intermediate-and shorter-range missiles. The positive processes that are developing should be extended to cover the Mediterranean region, so that it becomes a zone of stability, peace, and cooperation.

The USSR and the SFRY are convinced that the stable economic development of every country calls for a fundamental turnabout in international economic relations. The rapid and thorough resolution of the problems that lie at the bottom of the crisis in these relations is connected with the enormous level of indebtedness on the part of the majority of developing countries.

Press Conference Viewed

AU181458 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 16 Mar 88 p 8

[Commentary by Zbigniew Lesnikowski, Belgrade permanent correspondent: "An Exchange of Thoughts, an Exchange of Experience"]

[Text] Vadim Medvedev and Marko Lolic, CPSU and LCY Central Committee secretaries, were the spokesmen who informed journalists on Tuesday about the main points of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Yugoslavia. Just as during the Monday press conference, at this press conference we also heard about the very good, friendly climate in which the visit was taking place, about the complete openness of the dialogue, and about the excellent atmosphere permitting a forthright and businesslike exchange of views without the formalism that sometimes accompanies top-level meetings like this.

This new style, said Medvedev, encourages a spontaneous uninhibited exchange of ideas, which is of particular value when discussing such matters as the present stage

of socialist development in the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. And, apart from interparty relations and the international workers' movement, these matters formed the main subject of talks between Mikhail Gorbachev and Bosko Krunic.

Of course, the scale of the tasks and problems is not identical. The conditions behind socialist construction are different in the Soviet Union and in Yugoslavia, and there are different methods and means of solving various issues. But there are also many matters that are similar and give rise to mutual interest. The development of socialist democracy, improvement of systems of self-government, ways of reforming the economy, problems of nationalist policy, the acceleration of scientific progress—these are just some examples of the topics which may be or already are the subject of a genuine and mutually advantageous exchange of ideas and experience.

Warsaw Discusses Gorbachev Visit

LD202059 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1105 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Excerpt] [Announcer] I would risk the statement that the visit to Yugoslavia was a visit about late arrivals—but very specific lateness. I am not speaking here about the years which have passed since the last visit to Belgrade by a CPSU Central Committee general secretary—let us remind you that such a visit was made by Brezhnev in 1980—but that was a particular (?visit), it was to attend the funeral ceremony following the death of Josip Broz Tito. Mikhail Gorbachev's visit occurs more or less 12 years after the working visit by Brezhnev to Yugoslavia. Speaking about a visit of late arrivals however, I was thinking about those late arrivals resulting from the overrunning of various individual points of the day's agenda, the meetings with Belgrade's inhabitants, the meetings in Dubrovnik and those with inhabitants of this most beautiful city, and also Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife stayed a little bit longer in order to visit this beautiful city since it was raining on Thursday. But, naturally, this was not the most significant part of the visit. What was at issue here were political problems.

For us, the Mediterranean basin is not a secondary, far-off region. It is situated close to our southern border and through it passes the only sea route linking our southern ports with the world oceans, said Mikhail Gorbachev. Naturally, we are concerned that paths of peace should pass through here, not the trails of war.

I will not hand over to our guest, Boleslaw Broszczak [not further identified].

[Broszczak] Well, above all, you were talking about these later arrivals. Let me say that in the political sense, this was a visit of certain returns, the return to principles which lie at the foundations of mutual relations between Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union. What is important here is the Belgrade declaration adopted a year later in Moscow, which declared respect for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, also equality of rights of both sides and not permitting interference in internal affairs.

[Announcer] The declarations from those years are exceptionally relevant after years of acute tensions, and a joint declaration has been signed there this week in which both the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia state that they are directed by the conviction that no one and nothing has a monopoly on the truth any more, neither of the sides has pretensions to imposing its own views of social development on anyone at all.

[Broszczak] So you will agree with my concept that this is a visit about returning. Of course, due to this way of looking at the world and relations between individual socialist states, the Soviet Union may conduct this and not another international policy, a policy directed toward the strengthening of peace, which is why the Soviet Union is interested in peace in the Mediterranean Sea region.

[Announcer] I mentioned here that this is precisely not some sort of secondary sea basin, a far-off region. Despite the time, I would ask for a reminder of what Mikhail Gorbachev proposed in his speech in Belgrade.

[Broszczak] Briefly, it is a question of weakening military tensions, which may be done by way of freezing the maritime forces of the United States and the Soviet Union at this time, and if...

[Announcer interrupts] This is the proposal of [words indistinct]

[Broszczak] Yes, and if there is agreement to this on the U.S. side, because there must be this agreement, then a withdrawal will occur as a further step—withdrawal from the world's oceans and the armed forces of both sides from this part of the world.

[Announcer] Among these new proposals concerning the reduction of armed forces in the Mediterranean Sea region is also one saying that the formulation of principles for methods of ensuring the security of intensive shipping routes, particularly in international straits, by Mediterranean countries and other interested states, will meet with universal support from the Soviet side. [Broszczak] Please notice one thing here: Let us not narrow down this problem here just to Yugoslavia and the Mediterranean Basin. The Soviet Union supports regional initiatives concerning, in fact, every point on the globe—whether this will be a proposal for a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe, the Nordic zone, or whether this will be a demand for the establishment of peace in Latin America as the countries of that region are proposing, or whether it will be a demand from the countries of Southeast Asia for the creation of a security zone or a nuclear-free zone, or whether it will be a

question of [word indistinct] the Pacific zone—this is just one more example of precisely this consistent peace policy and this willingness for joint participation and help, mutual partnership, in regional initiatives.

The Soviet Union, and Mikhail Gorbachev personally, is of the conviction that all these, I would say, zonal or regional peace initiatives, have an enormous role to play, namely, altogether they bring closer, cooperate, help, increase the chances for the establishment of some global strategy for the peaceful development of humanity. [passage omitted]

USSR's Arbatov Visits, Meets Jaruzelski

LD182032 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Wojciech Jaruzelski has received Prof Georgiy Arbatov, director of the Institute for U.S. and Canadian Studies of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. The purpose of his visit is an exchange of party experiences in international affairs.

Holds Talks, Gives Lecture

LD202013 Warsaw PAP in English 1809 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Warsaw, March 20—Professor Georgiy Arbatov, head of the U.S. and Canada Institute at the Academy of Sciences of USSR was visiting Poland between March 16-20 following an invitation from the PUWP Central Committee.

The Soviet guest was received by PUWP CC First Secretary Wojciech Jaruzelski.

He also held talks with senior party officials: Jozef Czyrek, Mieczyslaw Rakowski, Stanislaw Bejger and Andrzej Wasilewski.

During a visit to the National Bank of Poland (NBP), Arbatov met with its President Wladyslaw Baka, while in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with Vice-Minister Tadeusz Olechowski.

Professor Arbatov delivered a lecture at the PUWP CC Academy of Social Sciences, held meetings with the heads of the Centre for Political and Propaganda Studies, the Polish Institute for International Affairs and also with the chairman of the Polish Council for Studies on Peace, Professor Aleksander Gieysztor. At the Interpress Center, Arbatov met with Polish press writers.

While visiting the Gdansk Coast, Arbatov met with its voivodship authorities. He also toured the city and the Lenin shipyard.

Interviewed on Soviet-U.S. Talks

LD202312 Warsaw PAP in English 2235 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Warsaw, March 20—The director of the Institute for the U.S. and Canada of the Academy of Sciences of the Soviet Union, Prof Georgiy Arbatov, now in Poland, appeared on the main TV news bulletin tonight to answer questions about key international events.

Commenting on tomorrow's meeting between Shevardnadze and Shultz, Arbatov stated that at present the situation is not so dramatic as it was before the Washington summit meeting. The talks could have been broken off were there no ready agreement or could have ended in fiasco. They might have not taken place at all.

Now the point is somewhat different. The meeting will surely take place. What matters is the extent to which the favourable capacities at our disposal are capitalized on. Capacities must not be located at a savings bank account because they usually vanish when not used immediately.

We wish—and such is the goal of the Soviet Union—for this meeting to be possibly most effective. Not only in the sense of the atmosphere but in the field of some foundamental, tangible results, Arbatov stated.

Are there any real chance for an agreement on the reduction of strategic arms to be signed as early as this half of the year. To some extent this will depend on the results of the meeting between Shevardnadze and Shultz.

During Shultz's visit to Moscow, Gorbachev forwarded new proposals and Shultz was optimistic.

As a participant of the recent meeting which Gorbachev held with American senators, I can state that he presented the standpoint of the USSR as follows: We want an agreement to be elaborated in the nearest future, but, of course, we want this to be a good agreement, we do not want to hurry to get something worse. In this sense our plans converge with those of the American Congress.

Asked what he thought about Western opinions on restructuring in the Soviet Union and Poland, Arbatov stated: Today this has become a very important factor in the political dispute taking place in the West. People who shape politics and formulate it cannot disregard the wishes of broad social circles to end the arms race, to move away the spectre of war and normalize the situation.

Changes in the Soviet Union, restructuring, new political thinking, new outlook on the world as an integral part due to all inter-connections and contradictions—all of this results in growing sympathy, in the fact that restructuring is becoming a factor of global politics.

A few words about Poland: The period of crisis in Poland between 1980-1981 was a difficult moment not only for your country, it also bore impact on the international situation. This made it impossible to act, as one would wish, in the direction of detente and a departure from the cold war. Foes of normalization and detente clinged [as received] on to this.

Frankly speaking, they expected the entry of Soviet troops into Poland and were disenchanted that this did not take place. They were not prepared for the variant which was applied. I think that a normal, positive and constructive development of the situation in our country and yours is absolutely indispensable for international stability, Arbatov said.

Daily Views Yazov-Carlucci Meeting

AU210925 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 16 Mar 88 p 9

[Maksymilian Berezowski commentary: "Yazov and Carlucci in Bern"]

[Text] Unprecedented talks will be held in Bern on 16 and 17 March between General D. Yazov and F. Carlucci, the Soviet and U.S. defense ministers. Their predecessors used to meet on the occasion of "summit" meetings between their political chiefs, and representatives of the defense ministers used to participate in various disarmament negotiations. However, talks chaired by the two defense ministers have never before been planned in advance. Caspar Weinberger, Carlucci's predecessor when relations were frozen, always rejected in various ways Yazov's suggestions that they should meet.

The present meeting is organically connected with the emerging change in Soviet-U.S. relations and with the series of meetings between Gorbachev and Reagan, the next of which should take place in a little more than 2 months. The present Yazov-Carlucci meeting is a result of the first Soviet-U.S. disarmament accord signed last December in Washington and is connected with other planned disarmament accords. The changes in question have made it possible to establish a direct dialogue between the heads of the world's mightiest military systems and have made this dialogue a necessity.

The main themes of the Bern talks are supposed to be control and reductions of armaments, efforts to prevent accidents where the armed forces of the two powers are close to each other, and military doctrines. As we know, the new Soviet strategic thinking places special emphasis on the defense nature of the Soviet military doctrine and for this reason postulates that the armed forces' commitment should be restricted to the tasks of "defense sufficiency." This process has been noted by Washington, but the issue is that the U.S. military doctrine should also be changed as this would greatly improve international security.

It is hard to expect that such complicated issues could be solved rapidly and easily. They require long preparations, many intermediate measures, and many political decisions. On top of it all, NATO has recently confirmed its attachment to the present strategic doctrine and continues to consider increasing and not decreasing some elements of its arsenal.

However, a beginning must be made somewhere. Experience shows that no models are absolutely unchangeable and that positive initiatives can move even the most solid of boulders. The very fact that Yazov and Carlucci are meeting is a hopeful sign that a new plane will be created at which top personalities can communicate, discuss, and continue exchanging information in a very important area. I think that it is no exaggeration to expect that the Bern meeting will be followed by other meetings. Besides, we already know that Marshal Akhromeyev, chief of the Soviet General Staff, has been invited to visit Washington and that his U.S. counterpart, Admiral Crowe, will visit Moscow next year.

In this nuclear age, such contacts constitute not only the necessary insurance, but can also help reduce military rivalry and promote a better understanding of joint interests.

Polonia's Mlynczak Discusses U.S. Trip

AU210905 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 16 Mar 88 p 4

[Z. Zaryczny report: "American Poles Today—Invitation to the 'Round Table'"]

[Excerpts] As has already been reported, Tadeusy W. Mlynczak, State Council deputy chairman and head of the Polonia Association, recently visited the United States for 10 days, during which he had many meetings with Polish-Americans. We asked him to discuss these meetings for the benefit of our readers.

[Mlynczak] I would like to stress that this was my first official trip to the United States as head of the Polonia Association. I had marathon talks with leading Polonia personalities in Washington, New York, Chicago, Buffalo, Detroit, and Philadelphia and met with representatives of various Polonia organizations and institutions, including those representatives with whom I met for the first time, because previously they did not care to have contacts with our Polonia Association. [passage omitted]

The Polish-Americans continue to be interested primarily in further intensifying cultural ties and in bringing prominent creators of culture into the United States, so that Polish culture is available not only to the Polish-Americans, but also to American society.

Polish-Americans continue to express their wish to promote business with the country, but they want to place it on clear and stable principles of cooperation and political-legal guarantees. I think that the sooner we create a

clear and coherent system of cooperation with foreign capital, the sooner will we become credible in our relations with the American Polonia and in the forum of the world business.

As you know, I also had official talks with representatives of the Senate, Congress and administration. My partners knew that I had meetings with the Polish-Americans and stressed among other things that they regarded contacts with these Poles an important element of the present relations between our two states. Deputy Secretary of State John Whitehead agreed with this and said that my visit could be regarded as the beginning of another stage in the normalization of Polish-U.S. relations.

I was pleased to note that the Americans of Polish origin enjoy a considerable influence in politics and business, which can be seen in the present election campaign: The candidates are clearly interested in the Polonia votes. Of course, the Polonia's efforts to improve U.S.-Polish relations are another question. It seems to me that a decisive majority of the Polish-Americans are in favor of this improvement, although some communities view progress in normalization with a jaundiced eye. I suggested to the Polish-Americans to organize a large round table meeting in Poland or in some Polonia community in the United States. My idea was regarded as important, but it is too early for the Polish-Americans to unequivocally declare their stand on the possibility of such a meeting. But I personally think that such a round table meeting will be held.

Greek Culture Minister Arrives on Visit

LD202152 Warsaw PAP in English
2021 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Warsaw, March 20—Today, Greek Minister of Culture Melina Mercouri started her official visit to Poland which she is paying at an invitation from her Polish counterpart, Minister Aleksander Krawczuk. Mercouri is the first Greek minister of culture to visit Poland. During her Polish visit Mercouri will tour the State Higher School of Theatre, Film and Television and the Educational Films Studio in Lodz, and will sightsee the monuments of Warsaw.

In her airport statement, Merkouri said she was happy over her visit to Poland whose culture is well known in the world. Works of many Polish artists distinguish themselves with particular significance and influence, Mercouri added.

18 Pacifists Arrested in Gdansk

AU211141 Paris AFP in English
1120 GMT 21 Mar 88

[Text] Warsaw, March 21 (AFP)—Eighteen members of the banned Polish pacifist group Freedom and Peace (WIP) were arrested Sunday [20 March] at Gdansk, northern Poland, dissident sources said here Monday.

Police raided three apartments at Gdansk, breaking down the door of one of them, and arrested the WIP members, the sources added. Five of those arrested, all women, were released Monday.

The move was aimed at stopping WIP militants from holding a demonstration Monday at the Sopot resort, near Gdansk, they said.

Transcript of Urban 15 Mar Press Conference

AU181415 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish
16 Mar 88 pp 1, 7

[Transcript of J. Urban's press conference for foreign and Polish journalists at the Warsaw Press Center INTERPRESS on 15 March]

[Text] Urban: The discussion about the future penal law continues to produce proposals to the effect that defending counsels should be able to participate in investigations on a much larger scale then heretofore. I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the prosecutor general has issued new directives on this matter. Without waiting for changes in regulations, officials continue to change practice on the strength of the existing regulations. The crux of the matter is that up to now the practice of letting defending counsels participate in interrogations and other investigating activities was rather a rare occurrence. The practice to be followed now will make an exception at the fact that a defending counsel is not allowed to meet with and be able to make free contacts with arrested persons. Defending counsels' applications for such participation "should be granted in principle" and "refusals should be exceptions," the prosecutor general writes. The same principle applies to the defending counsels' access to arrested persons, to confidential talks with them, and to evidence during actual investigations and not only after investigations have been completed.

The inquiries carried out by the prosecuting authorities into the previous practice in this regard have established that defending counsels applied relatively seldom for participation in investigations and for meetings with their arrested clients. Much will now depend on the lawyers themselves.

I have discussed the prosecutor's general new directives, which have been published, because they are one example of how unceasing changes continue to be carried out in our life with modesty and calm every passing day. Little notice is being taken of these changes, although their cumulative effect attests to the process of profound transformations in conditions in Poland.

Violetta Maik, TELEEXPRESS: The KOBIETA I ZYCIE poll selected you one of the six top men of the year. Is this to the government's advantage?

Urban: No, it is not. I contest the view that Poland is declining and that making someone like me a man of the year strengthens the fact that Poland continues to decline. As you can see, from the political viewpoint I lament that I have been honored in this way. I thank you.

Satala, GAZETA KRAKOWSKA: I have two questions. A week ago TYGODNIK POWSZECHNY published the memorandum on the emigration of young people, drawn up by the Primate's Social Council. How do you view this memorandum in the light of the statements you made at your previous press conferences?

Urban: In its intentions and in its many observations, that memorandum jibes in with the policy of our authorities and, please note this, with the government spokesman's recent statement on the subject of this emigration. We should praise the concern expressed by the Primate's Social Council for some young people's desire to emigrate. We should also praise the council's intention to counter this phenomenon. We find especially valuable the council's observations that the Polish community has the right to morally condemn the unnecessary decisions to emigrate, that it is possible to influence the fate of the country only by living in Poland, that it is an illusion to expect that this influence can be exerted from abroad, that aside from some exceptions, the West views the arrivals from Poland with a jaundiced eye, and that the lot of these arrivals is generally more difficult than people in Poland imagine it to be.

It is worth reminding ourselves that the desire to emigrate is a result of good education and of high aspirations developed in our country since the war by, I dare say, socialism.

However, I am surprised that the Primate Social Council's views on emigration were supplemented by some greatly controversial evaluations of our current situation. The main defect of the council's memorandum is its failure to see the present changes in Poland. It is certain that these changes could be consolidated and accelerated if the council gave them more obvious support. Some of the council's postulates with regard to our social and economic conditions amount to stating the obvious. Meeting these postulates calls for deeds and not words in the present situation. The authorities continue to plead for deeds by the communities that regard the Primate's Social Council as their authority.

What about your second question?

Satala: PAP has reported that the USSR and some CEMA countries are to sign an accord on using their respective currencies in mutual transactions. Will Poland be one of these countries? Will Poland sign such accords with other CEMA countries, such as the GDR or the CSSR?

Urban: I have nothing meaningful to say on this now. We should realize the unfortunate fact that the present position of our currency is not strong.

Renate Marsch, DPA: About emigration. What was the response to your appeal to the people to say what they think about young graduates who have emigrated or are emigrating? Any comment on the rumor that the government or universities will require graduates who want to emigrate to pay cash deposits?

Urban: That response is lively, as can be seen in the press, press commentaries, prolific discussions, and the many letters I keep receiving on this subject. Two editorial boards have volunteered to publish these letters, and we have allowed this under the condition that they must first obtain the authors' agreement for publication. Some of these letters are very interesting, but some, including those from abroad, are shocking. The subject has been discussed in many Western publications, which in their own ways refer positively to my statements on this emigration.

It is still too early to sum up this response. For example, I have no knowledge of the letters received on the subject in question by television and by various state bodies. We will collect these letters and somehow analyze the response they express.

As for your second question, we do not contemplate any payments of deposits from graduates who emigrate, but we will examine all aspects of emigration in the context of smuggling and of the misunderstandings created in this connections in Poland's relations with foreign countries. One specific move in this direction has been our request to travel bureaus not to organize 1- or 2-days excursions to Sweden, because they are trading and not tourist excursions. Marek Kassa, Polish Radio: How will the government respond to the Constitutional Tribunal's decision on heating coal allocations for farmers?

Urban: It is probable that the government will appeal to the full complement of the Tribunal against the verdict in this matter, simply because in order to increase the coal quota for farmers we would have to reduce coal exports by about $200 million, and this would badly hit our imports, including imports of fertilizers, pesticides, and industrial raw materials. If you give away something, you have to take away something. The decision to appeal has still not been made.

But this is only one aspect of the issue. The Constitutional Tribunal takes the view that it is unconstitutional to differentiate between coal allowances for farmers and non-farmers. This verdict indirectly hits at the constitutional legality of our various systems of distribution and rationing based on various criteria.

The government's legal advisers will certainly evaluate the Tribunal's verdict in relation to various allocations of materials for people in various jobs. Generally speaking, we continue to abandon the official distribution, allocation, and rationing of various materials and goods in favor of the market principles of purchases and sales. The governments wants to maximally accelerate this process.

Krzysztof Pilarski, SZTANDAR MLODYCH: According to information received by our newspaper, the nuclear missiles being removed from the GDR in pursuance of the Soviet-American agreement are passing through Poland. I would like to know what international principles and agreements govern the deployment and transport of nuclear resources on Polish soil.

Urban: SZTANDAR MLODYCH's information about missiles passing through Poland is correct. These transports are based on the 17 December 1956 agreement between the governments of Poland and the Soviet Union concerning the legal status of Soviet forces temporarily stationed in Poland. This agreement stipulates that movements of forces, and hence of armaments, outside their base require the Polish authorities' approval. There were Polish-Soviet talks based on this agreement 1 and 1/2 months ago. The Polish authorities were represented by the Polish Army General Staff. And it was agreed that the missiles would be transported through Poland.

I merely wish to assure you that these transports are completely safe. They are transports of carriers of explosive devices—of missiles. In any case, these transports have been suitably secured and protected.

Renate Marsch, DPA: You have spoken about changes in Poland. And yet the militia once again beat up students on 8 March. Why, and why so violently?

Urban: I deny Western reports that the militia used truncheons in order to break up a gathering. According to my information, militia units did not disperse an unauthorized gathering by force. And if they did use force anywhere, it was during scuffles with undisciplined participants who behaved aggressively. That means that there was some sporadic reaction from the militia, some situations unrecorded by the militia command, resulting from a militiaman's right to use force in cases specified in the regulations.

I read with surprise an article in the STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG, summarized by Radio Free Europe, about a violent dispersal by Motorized Civic Militia Units [ZOMO] of a several hundred-strong march by students who, following a service in the church of St Anna, wanted to lay flowers at the Mickiewicz Monument. The author of this article claims that this was a repetition of events of 20 years ago which sparked off an anti-Semitic campaign in Poland.

Theories have already been formulated about the meaning of this militia conduct. By their conduct, the peacekeeping bodies are said to have canceled out the authorities' efforts to convince everyone that they had nothing to do with the events of March 1968. Now it is said that the Polish security authorities have panicked and lost their head. According to other opinions, there is some sort of contest going on inside the apparatus of authority. These are all political thoughts about events about which there was nothing political at all, events which merely involved the keeping of the peace. We have nothing against laying as many flowers as possible at the Mickiewicz Monument. But we do have something against street gatherings that have not been authorized. Furthermore, militia action is automatic. The militia's task is to safeguard peace on the streets. The militia had no instructions to use force without need, in other words without aggression on the part of illegal demonstrators. If they did use force in sporadic cases, this is because of various situations which it is generally impossible to record. In any case, there were no general instructions to use force because there is no general need for them.

Charles Gans, AP: I am somewhat surprised by your remarks about the 8 March events in Warsaw because I witnessed them and saw the demonstration. I saw the demonstrators trying to communicate with the militia before they proceeded to the Mickiewicz Mmonument. They were not allowed to approach the monument. Not only that, I saw how militiamen took out their truncheons and then charged the very center of the demonstrating crowd. So this was no sporadic occurrence, but general militia behavior. Much more than that, after this charge the militia chased after demonstrators not only near the monument, but also in the side streets leading from Krakowskie Przedmiescie Street down to the Vistula River. This entire operation lasted 20 minutes. My impression is that the use of force here was no sporadic incident, but was wide-scale and premeditated.

Urban: You have a major advantage over me by having been there. All I can say is that the militia had no instructions to use force in dispersing this illegal demonstration. However, it is the militia's task to prevent unauthorized demonstrations. Communicating with the militia about a demonstration should take place before the demonstration, in the form of an application for permission to hold a gathering in accordance with the rules in Poland.

If the militia does not give such permission, it has to be obeyed and no gathering may be organized.

Charles Gans: Returning to the subject of emigration, the Episcopal Council in its report questioned the fact that the West is encouraging something like a brain drain. On the contrary, the Council said that educated Poles who emigrate have difficulty in finding a job and setting themselves up in their profession. But are the

Polish authorities themselves not encouraging a domestic brain drain? You yourself spoke at a recent conference about the possibility of working under the franchise system. And indeed, thousands of young people are running their own boutiques, vegetable stalls, and so on, which is similar to a domestic brain drain. But what do the authorities actually intend to do about this problem?

Urban: It is true that an entire mass of emigrants, most emigrants in fact, are having trouble with finding work in their new country. These problems are universal, and the Primate's Council has portrayed them aptly. However, another phenomenon which is not extensive but has a painful effect on Poland is the brain drain. Western countries are draining out of Poland certain categories of highly-qualified people who stand out in their specialization, and are offering them material, professional, and technical conditions that are several times better than in Poland. These are therefore two parallel phenomena.

Did I encourage an internal brain drain by saying that the second stage of the economic reform is creating interesting new chances for private enterprise? It was not and is not my intention nor that of anyone in authority to encourage highly-qualified people to undertake low-status work on their own account. I clearly referred to those young people with their own clear material aspirations when I mentioned the new way out now facing them, in other words the Council of Ministers resolution on franchises. In any case, this is just one of the possibilities presented by the second stage of the reform.

Above all, the second stage of the reform creates an opportunity, potentially at least, for releasing inventiveness, resourcefulness, creativity, and enterprise in the state sector and, in fact, all sectors. That people with high qualifications should take up work that requires low qualifications is not a pattern of behavior that we wish to recommend, although personally I believe that certain attitudes prevalent in Poland are anachronistic. What I am thinking of is, for example, that some people who have been through higher education and have, for example, a degree in some branch of the humanities believe that they are entitled to a job in their specialist field and to a salary that is commensurate with their level of education. I think that the purpose of education, which is of a broad kind in Poland, does not necessarily have to be of a utilitarian nature. There is nothing bad or degrading about someone who has studied art history, for example, organizing some kind of commercial venture, otherwise it would be necessary to greatly reduce the number of students studying to be become art historians.

Similar problems exist in the West. I would like to stress that education is good in itself and that education that is geared solely to the number of posts that would be of benefit to society in a particular field would place a limit on the number of people studying and would lead to a reduction in the number of students.

Jerzy Gonczarski, EXPRESS WIECZORNY: Do plans to end the regulated distribution of consumer goods in the form of various kinds of entitlements also include the abandonment of the voucher system for automobiles? If they do, then when will it happen? And a related question—is consideration still being given to the idea of providing loans to buy automobiles.

Urban: Yes, undoubtedly, although I do not know when this will happen. The question of vouchers, quite simply, has not been settled yet. It is complicated, because it involves the various complicated interests of various occupational groups—miners, doctors, social groups that are not in employment such as invalids. The authorities will have to somehow solve this problem in the near future. But it seems to me that it would not be a bad idea if it were made easier for people who find automobiles indispensable for occupational reasons to acquire automobiles at free market prices more easily.

Surender Kumar Bhutani, UNITED NEWS OF INDIA: I would like to apologize for this question beforehand. The Polish ministers of foreign affairs and scientific and technological progress recently visited India, and both of them stated that Poland wishes to cooperate with India in the field of science and technology. However, I, as an Indian journalist living here in Warsaw, cannot imagine how this would be possible, because I have been asking for a telephone to be transferred to my new apartment for the past 11 months now. Whenever I ask the telephone office about this, I am told that it is not possible for technical reasons. Thus, if such simple technical matters cannot be dealt with, what possibility is there of scientific and technical cooperation?

Urban: In reply to your question, I would like to assure you that Poland does possess the technical means to install a telephone. However, the installation does involve digging and laying cables. Perhaps this does not lie within your financial means or the economic means of the telephone office. But I would not like you to conclude from this that Polish industry and Polish research institutes are not of a standard that would make it possible to cooperate with appropriate centers in India.

We hope that this cooperation will help to reduce the number of problems in Poland, problems like the underdevelopment of the telephone network. Besides, we also think that such cooperation would benefit the population of India, at least part of which is familiar with hardship and shortages.

John Daniszewski, AP: Mr Minister, I have two questions. First, I would like to ask when commercial prices for gasoline will be introduced, so that it is no longer necessary to have special coupons to buy fuel legally. Second, the Polish press has recently carried a lot of

articles on the subject of homeless people who sleep in ditches and railway stations. Could you comment on these reports and tell us how extensive a phenomenon it is in Poland?

Urban: Commercial prices for gasoline might be introduced shortly. Preparations are being made, but I cannot give you a date at the present time. What it means is that gasoline will continue to be rationed in as far as that someone who wishes to get more gasoline that he is entitled to will be able to do so by paying the higher commercial price.

I am not familiar with any articles about homeless people in Poland. I maintain that the social phenomenon of homelessness does not exist in Poland. Apart from that I have nothing more to say on the subject. I am simply not familiar with the facts and observations on which your question is based.

Charles Gans, AP: Mr Minister, discussing the question of March 1968 in TRYBUNA LUDU, the PZPR acknowledged that mistakes that had their origin in anti-Semitic excesses were made at the time. In view of this, does the government intend to pay any kind of compensation to be people who suffered as a result of these excesses, people who, let us say, lost their jobs, pension rights and were wronged generally but chose to remain in Poland.

At the same time, the information that was published contained the names of people who were at least partially responsible for the excesses, and some of them continue to occupy official positions. Are there any plans to take action against these people?

Urban: The manifestations of anti-Semitism that you read about in TRYBUNA LUDU primarily entailed moral wrongs, although various wrongs of a more concrete kind were also committed. However, this does not mean that anyone lost work in an illegal way or that this was an extensive phenomenon. And definitely nobody in Poland lost pension rights. In view of this, because the wrongs were primarily of a moral kind, compensation for these acts was also of a moral kind. The issues that you raised, that of compensation, is artificial. No such suggestions have been made. If someone believes that he has been wronged, then in the individual case, if these claims are legally justified in accordance with the general principles that obtain in Poland, the claims can be investigated. This could have been done earlier. Questions of this kind are regulated either by civil law or the labor code.

I think that your idea of the events does not correspond to their actual scale and the actual form that they took.

I think that the people who 20 years ago were involved in unjust actions or actions that were based on inappropriate criteria have borne political and moral responsibility in view of the articles that have appeared. I would like you to appreciate that this is the way in which all of this is taking place.

Premier Dascalescu Departs for CSSR

AU211212 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0958 GMT 21 Mar 88

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 21/3/1988—The Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Romania Constantin Dascalescu flew out Monday morning for an official goodwill visit to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic at the invitation of Prime Minister Lubomir Strougal.

South African Death Sentences Condemned

AU182043 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1948 GMT 18 Mar 88

["Statement by the Romanian News Agency AGERPRES on the Death Sentence of Six Coloured Youths in the South African Republic"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 18/3/1988—The Romanian News Agency AGERPRES released a statement showing that public opinion in Romania has learned with profound indignation that a court in South Africa sentenced to death six young coloured people in the South African town of Sharpeville on unjust charges and without any evidence.

This sentence, the statement shows, is an odious crime committed by the racist Pretoria authorities against fundamental human rights and liberties, against the coloured population in South Africa.

The Romanian people resolutely demands the repeal of the death sentence of the six young people in South Africa, their immediate release and an end to any reprisals of the South African authorities against the fighters for freedom and social justice in that country.

Central, mass and public organizations in Romania, components of the Socialist Democracy and Unity Front, addressed messages to the secretary-general of the United Nations Organization, Javier Perez de Cuellar, in connection with the unjust death sentence of the six young coloured people in South Africa. The messages sent by the General Trade Union Confederation of Romania, the National Women's Council, the Union of Communist Youth, the Union of Communist Students Associations of Romania, the Romanian League of Friendship With Peoples of Asia and Africa express energetic protest against the arbitrary decision of the South African Government, a flagrant violation of the foremost human liberties.

Vehemently stigmatizing the repressive measures of the racist Pretoria administration, the messages demand the repeal of the death sentence of the six coloured youths and their immediate release, which would fully meet the unanimously recognized norms of the international law, of the fundamental human rights.

Sentences Vigorously Protested

AU191417 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1116 GMT 19 Mar 88

["Messages by Political, Mass and Public Organizations in Romania"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 19/3/1988—Getting to know with profound indignation of the unjust accusation of sentencing to death of the six coloured young people in Sharpeville by the racist authorities in Pretoria, central, mass and public organizations in Romania addressed messages to Javier Perez de Cuellar, secretary-general of the United Nations, expressing vigorous protest against the decision of the South-African Government, request the annulment of the sentence.

The message sent by the General Trade Union Confederation of Romania (GTUCR) reads:

In behalf of its millions of members, the GTUCR most resolutely condemns the loatheful sentence pronounced by the Pretoria regime and insistently urges the United Nations to use its whole authoritativeness in order to rescue the lives of the young convicts.

We most firmly demand the cessation of the racist repressions committed by the Pretoria authorities, the abolition of the profoundly inhumane practices of racial discriminaton and apartheid, in keeping with the UN Charter and the resolutions endorsed in this respect by the Security Council, the establishment of a democratic society relying upon social equality and justice in the South African Republic.

In behalf of all women in Romania, we firmly protest against the odious decision of the South African racist authorities, reads the message of the Women's Organization in Romania.

We apply to the United Nations to urgently make use of all its authoritativeness in order to prevent a new crime, to rescue the lives of the six innocent young people and achieve their undelayed setting free, the message shows.

The Romanian young people most categorically demand the renunciation of this unjust sentence that is a flagrant defiance of the fundamental human rights and freedoms, shows the message of the Union of Communist Youth of Romania. It reiterates the Romanian youth's active, militant solidarity with the national movement against apartheid in that country and declares against the inhumane, racist and discriminatory practices of the authorities in South Africa.

In turn, the Union of Communist Student Associations in Romania demands the immediate cessation of the loatheful policy of racial discrimination and apartheid, of the savage terror unleashed against the majority, coloured population in South Africa, urging the UN to immediately act for the annulment of the death penalty

of the six coloured young people, their immediate setting free, the setting free of all political detainees in South Africa, the cessation of the massacres, the securing of all citizens' full participation in their country's political and social life.

The message of the Romanian League of Friendship With the Peoples in Asia and Africa assesses the new repressive action of the Pretoria racist authorities, meaning the death penalty of six coloured young people in the South-African town of Sharpeville, as utterly lacking in legal substance, as a premeditated measure of intimidation and bloody repression of the movement against apartheid in South Africa.

Romanian-Mauritanian Joint Communique Issued
AU201606 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian
16 Mar 88 pp 1,3

["Joint Communique" on President Nicolae Ceausescu's visit to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania on 13-15 March 1988]

[Text] The president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, together with Comrade Elena Ceausescu, 13-15 March 1988, paid an official visit of friendship to the Islamic Republic of Mauritania at the invitation of the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya.

The president of the SR of Romania, together with Comrade Elena Ceausescu and Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, conducted fruitful official talks, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

During the talks, the heads of the two states examined the ways and means to develop relations of friendship between Romania and Mauritania and proceeded to a thorough examination of the international economic and political situation.

The distinguished Romanian guests visited economic and socio-cultural establishments in Nouakchott and enjoyed an outstanding welcome everywhere.

Examining the development stage of the relations between the SR of Romania and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, the leaders of the two countries expressed their satisfaction with the continuous improvement of relations between the two countries and decided to further develop these relations in all areas of mutual interest.

The sides emphasized the decisive role of the summit meeting and talks, which open up new prospects to the development of bilateral cooperation and collaboration between the two countries in the international arena.

The president of the SR of Romania and the head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania reaffirmed their determination to develop relations between the two countries, on the basis of equality of rights, respect for independence and national sovereignty, noninterference in domestic affairs, mutual advantage, and the right of each country to develop in accordance with the aspirations of its own people.

The leaders of the two countries greatly appreciated the fruitful cooperation between Romania and Mauritania in ocean fishing and decided to take further steps with a view to expanding and diversifying their cooperation in the future, too, in keeping with the understandings and orientations established together.

The presidents of Romania and of Mauritania decided to work to enhance commercial exchanges and to develop economic cooperation in the fields of industry, mining, agriculture, construction, transportation, telecommunication, and other sectors of joint interest.

Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya decided that a session of the Joint Governmental Commission for Economic Cooperation—an important instrument for developing bilateral cooperation—should be held in 1988.

The leaders of Romania and Mauritania reiterated the significance of increasing cooperation between their governments as well as contacts in all the fields of joint interest. In this respect, the sides decided to organize periodical consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of the two countries.

During the visit, the sides signed an aide-memoire on the further development of economic and technological cooperation and the intensification of commercial exchanges, and the accord between the Government of the SR of Romania and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania on the mutual promotion of and guarantees on investments.

Examining the international economic and political situation, Presidents Nicolae Ceausescu and Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya noted with satisfaction their identity of views on the ensemble of issues that had been approached.

The leaders of the two countries expressed their vivid concern over the arms race and its consequences on the general development.

The president of the SR of Romania and the head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania spoke out most firmly for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons and expressed their belief that the nations of the world should take actions toward achieving this objective.

The leaders of the two countries decided to join their efforts to halt the nuclear tests and the militarization of the outer space and to adopt measures aimed at the elimination of chemical and of other weapons of mass destruction.

The leaders of the two countries hailed the signing of the accord between the Soviet Union and the United States on the elimination of intermediate and shorter-range missiles, and they believe that further actions should be taken to achieve new accords in this respect. Likewise, the sides stressed the need to achieve a substantial reduction of conventional weapons, troops, and military expenditures. They also expressed the hope that during the third special UN session, which will be held in May 1988, concrete results be reached.

The chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation, Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya, greatly appreciated President Nicolae Ceausescu's initiative on Romania's unilateral 5-percent reduction of its arms, troops, and military expenditures, and stressed that this measure is a significant example in the efforts that have to be made in the field of disarmament.

The leaders of the two countries expressed their hope that at the Vienna All-European Conference for Security and Cooperation, the participants will reach agreements, which can lead to the improvement of relations of cooperation among all European countries and to the endorsement of concrete confidence and disarmament measures. Likewise, the sides expressed their confidence in the possibility of turning the Balkans into a zone of peace and cooperation.

Examining the situation in Africa, the president of the SR of Romania and the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania made note of the achievements of the African people in their struggle for freedom and national independence, for socioeconomic development, for expanding cooperation among them, and for strengthening their unity of political actions on African and on international levels.

The leaders of the two countries stressed the important role played by the OAU in strengthening cooperation among African countries and the contribution this organization makes to seeking solutions to the problems of that continent.

Reiterating their support for the struggle of the people in West Africa, the president of the SR of Romania and the head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania firmly condemned South Africa's aggressive actions against front-line countries, the racist apartheid policy and the repressive measures of the Pretoria authorities against the majority population in that country, and, particularly, the recent actions against the anti-apartheid democratic movements. The leaders of the two countries decided to continue to work, together with other countries, to achieve the abolition of apartheid and to ensure the right of the people in South Africa to freedom and to a dignified life.

The presidents of Romania and of Mauritania reaffirmed their country's solidarity with and the support for the just struggle of the Namibian people for national independence, under the leadership of South-West African People's Organization, their sole legitimate representative, and decided to continue their efforts in the international arena to bring about Namibia's rapid access to independence, on the basis of the UN Security Council Resolution No. 435.

The presidents of the two countries expressed their vivid concern over the current situation in the Arab territories occupied by Israel and noted that, in order to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East, Israel must withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and the national rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to self-determination and to establishing their own independent country should be recognized.

The leaders of the two countries speak out for the organization of a UN-sponsored international peace conference on Middle East issues, with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO, as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, as well as of the permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The president of the SR of Romania and the head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania expressed their concern over the dangerous evolution of the conflict in the Gulf and called for an immediate halt of the hostilities between Iran and Iraq and for finding a peaceful solution to their problems, in accordance with the UN Security Council Resolution No. 598.

The leaders of the two countries spoke out for exclusively peaceful and negotiated solutions to interstate conflicts.

Regarding the deterioration of the world economic situation and particularly the situation of developing countries, the leaders of the two countries noted that the actions of finding solutions to the international economic situation and of eliminating underdevelopment require the establishment of a new, more just and equitable, world economic order.

The president of the SR of Romania and the head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania speak out for the organization of a UN-sponsored international conference, aimed at finding overall solutions to the problems of underdevelopment, including the problems of foreign debts and of extremely high interest rates.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and President Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed reaffirmed their support for the UN principles and decided to intensify cooperation between the SR of Romania and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania in the international arena, within the United Nations and its specialized institutions, within the "Group of 77" and the Nonaligned Movement in order to increase their contribution to the settlement of the major problems of our time, and to promote peace, security, and cooperation throughout the world.

The leaders of the two countries noted that finding solutions to the complex problems of our times requires the active participation of all the countries, with completely equal rights, in order to promote a policy of cooperation, independence, and peace.

The president of the SR of Romania and the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania expressed their complete satisfaction with the new Romanian-Mauritanian summit meeting, with the talks they held, and with the understandings they reached and believe that they represent a new and significant contribution to expanding relations of friendship and multifaceted cooperation between the two countries, for the benefit of the Romanian and Mauritanian people and in the interest of the cause of peace, progress, and cooperation throughout the world.

The president of the SR of Romania, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, and Comrade Elena Ceausescu extended cordial thanks to the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya and to the friendly Mauritanian people for the hospitality and very warm reception they enjoyed during their visit.

The president of the SR of Romania, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, and Comrade Elena Ceausescu extended an invitation to the chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya and to Mrs Taya, to pay an official visit of friendship to the SR of Romania. The invitation was accepted with pleasure; the date of the visit will be established through diplomatic channels.

Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania,

Colonel Maaouiya Ould Sid 'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Nouakchott, 15 March 1988.

Ceausescu Reports to PEC on African Tour

AU181953 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1848 GMT 18 Mar 88

["High Appreciation For the Results of President Nicolae Ceausescu's Visit to African Countries"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 18/03/1988—During its 18 March meeting, the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP was informed about the official goodwill visits President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania and Mme Elena Ceausescu paid to the Republic of Ghana, the Republic of Liberia, the Republic of Guinea and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

The Executive Political Committee stressed with full satisfaction that, through their productive results, those visits went down as moments of greatest significance in the development of friendship, collaboration and solidarity with the respective countries, of the Romanian-African relations in general, for the benefit of the respective peoples. The Executive Political Committee also highlighted that the visits Romania's president paid to Ghana, Liberia, Guinea and Mauritania were a brilliant policy, of international importance and significance, making an outstanding contribution to the cause of peace, understanding and cooperation among nations.

The Executive Political Committee emphasized in that context the particular importance of the meetings and talks President Nicolae Ceausescu had with the leaders of the states visited, when the common wish was expressed to work to impart ever broader dimensions and an ever richer content to mutually advantageous cooperation. This determination is conspicuously expressed by the understandings covenanted, by the documents signed, which open new prospects for the manysided cooperation between Romania and the visited countries.

The fact was underscored that in consideration of the priorities of the socioeconomic development programmes, of the results scored in bilateral cooperation, during the talks it was agreed to work for the intensification of cooperation in industry, agriculture as well as in other areas, for the increase and diversification of trade on the basis of long-term agreements which should render it stable and open broad prospects. In that context it was agreed to enhance the role of the joint commissions of cooperation in identifying new areas and forms of cooperation, in developing economic relations as a whole.

The same time stress was laid on the significance of the exchanges of opinions President Nicolae Ceausescu had with the heads of the visited states on the evolution of the international situation which highlighted the identity or closeness of viewpoints on the major issues confronting mankind.

The Executive Political Committee assessed as particularly important the determination of Romania and of the countries visited to cooperate ever closer in the international arena, to participate actively in the efforts for a constructive solution to the complex problems of our time, to tirelessly militate for the achievement of disarmament, nuclear disarmament first and foremost, for a pacific settlement of the conflicts in various parts of the world, for the establishment of a climate of detente, security, confidence and cooperation in Europe, in Africa and throughout the world, for the democratization of international life and the guaranteeing of every nation's right to a free, independent and dignified existence, to life and peace.

The attention was stressed Romania and the visited states pay to the liquidation of underdevelopment and the establishment of a new international economic order, to an equitable solution to the foreign debt problem, as they declare for the calling of an international conference in this respect, under the U.N. aegis, to be attended by both the developing and the developed countries.

The Executive Political Committee assessed the reiteration during the talks of the solidarity of Romania and of the countries visited with the fight of the African peoples for the complete abolition of any form of colonialism, for the consolidation of national independence, for a free, self-reliant development, for economic and social progress. Working in this spirit, they back the just fight for national liberation of the Namibian people, led by SWAPO [South West African People's Organization], its sole legitimate representative, for Namibia's independence. Likewise, they firmly condemn South Africa's acts of aggression against the front-line states, as well as the racist policy of apartheid and the reprisals of the Pretoria regime against the majority colour population.

Emphasis was placed on the importance of the conclusion reached during the top-level dialogue on the need for an enhanced role of the organization of African unity in the development of the cooperation among the states on that continent, in the settlement of the problems confronting it.

Unanimously approving the results of the visits, the accords convenanted and the documents signed, the Executive Political Committee requested the government, the ministries, the other central bodies to undertake all measures required for the implementation of the understandings set in the best conditions.

PEC Calls RCP Plenum for 28-29 March

AU181947 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1835 GMT 18 Mar 88

["Meeting of the Executive Political Committee of the CC of the RCP"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 18/3/1988—Met on Friday, March 18, under the chairmanship of Party General Secretary Nicolae Ceausescu, the Executive Political Committee decided that a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party be held on March 28 and 29.

The Executive Political Committee debated a report on a balance-sheet analysis of the results obtained in the national economy as a whole, and the formation and utilization of the financial resources in 1987. The report points to the outstanding achievements scored in the intensive development and modernization of industry, and highlights that the biggest cereal production in the country's history was obtained in 1987. Special achievements were scored in the other economic sectors as well, and so were in education, health and culture. The national income grew and, with this as a basis, the people's material and spiritual welfare rose. All this bore positively on the financial situation of the country, the necessary resources being thus provided for an appropriate financing of projects, the maintenance of a budgetary and financial balance, a healthy money circulation and the firm application of the price stability policy.

All ministries were assigned the task to work out programmes of measures in two weeks from now, which should provide for the realization of the incomes and profits envisaged in the budgets, higher profitability of all enterprises so that by the end of the first half of this year there should be no industrial or farming unit to work with a deficit.

The Executive Political Committee examined and approved a report on the working people's profit-sharing fund for 1987. As the report shows, the fund is closely correlated to the fulfilment of the plan. When setting it in the economy as a whole, in ministries, and central departments account was taken of the degree of fulfilling the economic and financial indicators for 1987 and, primarily, the profits. Following the results obtained last year, the profit-sharing fund in the state economic units is larger than in 1986. More substantial increases were registered in those sectors which scored better achievements in raising productivity, cutting material consumption and production expenses and in ensuring additional profits. In the context it was stressed that profits should grow not by increasing prices but by reducing consumption and production expenditure.

It was established that the proposals for a better system of constituting and granting profits be advanced to the Grand National Assembly for debate.

Next, the Executive Political Committee examined the situation of stocks on December 31, 1987, and analysed a report on the application in 1987 of the provisions of the law regarding the control of the source of goods illicitly obtained by physical persons.

It was decided that the report be submitted to the Grand National Assembly for debate.

The Executive Political Committee further analysed a report on the party membership, composition and organizational structure on December 31, 1987 and the political-organizational activity carried on by party bodies and organizations for the implementation of party decisions and directives, as well as a report on the activity of party and state bodies and of mass organizations in 1987 for the implementation of the party cadre policy. A report was also examined on the party and state international activity in 1987 and the major goals of the foreign policy in 1988. The Executive Political Committee approved the reports, and decided that they should be submitted to the plenum of the CC of the RCP for debate.

Mojsov Assesses Talks With Gorbachev

LD182000 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1748 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Dubrovnik, March 18 (TANJUG)—The visit of general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Mikhail Gorbachev has been exceptionally successful by both the frankness of talks, and the wide range of questions we discussed, said President of the Presidency of Yugoslavia Lazar Mojsov in a statement to TANJUG after the talks with the Soviet party leader in the Grand Hotel in Kupari today.

There is so-to-say not a single question either from bilateral relations, or from the international sphere that we did not include in this broad and frank exchange of views, added Mojsov.

Our talks were varied and multidimensional, he said, recalling that questions of internal relations were discussed at the State Presidency, and those of relations between the League of Communists of Yugoslavia and the Soviet Communist Party and of the communist and workers' movement in the world, at the Presidency of the LCY Central Committee. The distinguished visitor also had talks with leaders of the republics and cities he toured.

Mojsov pointed out that a highly important document was adopted—the Yugoslav-Soviet declaration which not only reaffirmed the principles from the 1955 Belgrade Declaration and the 1956 Moscow Declaration signed by Comrades Tito and Khrushchev, "but we reaffirmed them as principles which have stood the test of history and we further developed them in accordance with the present state of our and world relations."

I can say that we also dealt very much with our bilateral relations and our views on the problems we are facing on the current stage of development of our two countries, said Mojsov.

Mikhail Gorbachev spoke of the current stage of development in the Soviet Union. We acquainted ourselves much more closely, if I may say so, with his ideas and with problems facing his country. From our part, we acquainted Mikhail Gorbachev with our problems, pointing out that in the Yugoslav federation of equal nations and nationalities, where full equality of the republics and provinces has found expression, we wish to make a turn, that is, to reform our socio-economic system so that we may come out of our present crisis as soon as possible through higher productivity, increase in production and exports, and reduced inflation—stated Mojsov.

Talks on the possibilities and prospects of further development of Yugoslav-Soviet economic cooperation were also highly important, said Mojsov. Certain halts and difficulties were noted and the wish for their earliest possible elimination expressed by both sides, as was also the wish to diversify cooperation by introducing new forms, in keeping with the new technological revolution in the world in which both countries are joining. The prospect of longterm cooperation was pointed out in particular. Two joint enterprises already operate in this sphere, and about ten more are to become operative by the end of the year—mentioned Mojsov.

I must stress that Comrade Gorbachev's visit as a whole was very successful also in exchange of views on international problems, especially from the aspect of the initiatives to democratize international relations and allay world focuses of crisis. The talks indicated fair prospects for the development of our relations upon firm and lasting foundations—said Lazar Mojsov at the end of his statement to TANJUG.

'Mini-Book' Published on Gorbachev Visit

AU191309 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 17 Mar 88 p 1

[Unattributed report: "The Mini-book 'Gorbachev in Yugoslavia'"]

[Text] Novi Sad, 16 Mar—A mini-book [mini-knjiga] entitled "Gorbachev in Yugoslavia" was published today in Novi Sad by the Federation of Associated Collectors of Vojvodina and Forum Publishing Press.

This bibliophilic edition contains a piece on the visit to Yugoslavia of Mikhail Gorbachev and his wife Raisa printed in Russian, Serbo-Croatian, and Hungarian. This miniature book, which has a printing of 300 copies, is illustrated with photographs of meetings between the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Lazar Mojsov, president of the SFRY Presidency, and Bosko Krunic, president of the LCY Central Committee, as well as of other events during the visit.

Further Commentary on Gorbachev's Visit

BORBA on Talks with Krunic

AU182109 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 16 Mar 88 p 1

["Report by Drago Vukcevic, Nenad Briski, and TANJUG: Second Day of Mikhail Gorbachev's Visit to Yugoslavia: Time for New Efforts"]

[Text] Belgrade, 15 Mar—The Yugoslav-Soviet talks continued today after a successful first round yesterday. Bosko Krunic, president of the Presidium of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, began their talks in the Sociopolitical Organizations Building in New Belgrade shortly after 1100, and they concluded tham 1 hour later than envisaged.

This very detail shows that the two sides had a lot to discuss and say. In addition to the resulting statement on the relations of the two parties—to the effect that the

talks passed in an atmosphere of friendship, mutual understanding, and exhaustive information—it is worth noting that today's meeting became a dialogue. This is something new that made it possible to exchange thoughts and present views—including, of course, views that were not identical—on the development of socialism as a world process and the trends in the workers and other progressive movements.

It was pointed out by both sides that the two parties, the LCY and the CPSU, advocate the development of an active dialogue and equal cooperation among all progressive parties and movements in the world, regardless of their ideological orientation; this is to say, the development of a dialogue on world problems that involve peace, social progress, and the strengthening of trust among nations. The new thinking that is holding sway in the world can only be proven through such deeds, regardless of the resistance and the slow processes burdening the world.

Matters are obviously moving forward. Let us say that this is the demand of the time. Only 3 years ago, it was difficult to think, let alone say, a sentence such as the following: "In Belgrade in 1955 and a year later in Moscow, a tremendous turn was made in the relations between the two parties and countries, when Tito and Khrushchev, by signing the two declarations, showed great wisdom in overcoming complex problems that had arisen by that time." Pronouncing this sentence before a large number of journalists today, Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, added: "We stated then that we renounced baseless accusations against the Yugoslav leadership, and the documents from the fifties have essentially influenced the strengthening of comprehensive cooperation between the two countries."

It was assessed in the talks yesterday and today that the well-known principles in the two declarations have stood the test of time over more than 3 decades. Krunic and Gorbachev talked today in detail about the role of the two parties in sociopolitical processes in their countries, and about the methods of work of the two parties, which obviously is an extremely important subject in the present-day development of socialism and the party in power.

Commenting on the talks of the party delegations, Medvedev said that the role of the CPSU in the process of democratization of political and economic currents in the USSR will not weaken, but will strengthen when the party does not hold state administrative power. The party will free itself of operative functions and will create room for initiatives and for more independent decision-making by collectives. It was also said that the Yugoslav side showed great interest in the processes of restructuring, about which Gorbachev spoke exhaustively.

Both sides assessed that the meeting of communist, workers, and other parties and movements in Moscow on the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution developed in a very democratic spirit, and that differences in views and thoughts were respected. This constitutes a qualitatively new step in the cooperation of parties.

In the talks in the LCY Central Committee Building today, those taking part on the Yugoslav side were, in addition to Krunic, Milanko Renovica, Marko Orlandic, and Vasil Tupurkovski, members of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; Stanislav Stojanovic and Marko Lolic, executive secretaries of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; Milan Veres, SFRY ambassador to the USSR; and Aleksandar Sekulovic, head of the International Cooperation Section of the LCY Central Committee.

In addition to Gorbachev, those on the Soviet side were Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Ivan Silayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Viktor Maltsev, USSR ambassador to the SFRY; Georgiy Shakhnazarov, Gorbachev's chief of cabinet; Albert Vlasov, first deputy chief of the Propaganda Department of the CPSU Central Committee; Vadim Loginov, USSR deputy foreign minister; as well as Oleg Ribakov, Yuriy Mushakterov, and Viktor Nerubaylo, officials in the CPSU Central Committee.

BORBA on Meeting With Serbian Leaders

AU181933 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 17 Mar 88 p 1

[Text] Belgrade, 16 Mar—Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, was the guest of the leadership of the SR of Serbia today. It was announced that his hosts, Petar Gracanin, president of the Presidency of the SR of Serbia, and Slobodan Milosevic, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, acquainted the distinguished guest and the members of the Soviet delegation with the social, economic, and political situation in the republic.

It was pointed out during the talks that Serbia's economy, with a 41-percent share in foreign trade, is the main factor in Yugoslav exports and that it actively contributes to the development of economic cooperation between Yugoslavia and the USSR. Considering the mutual interests and unexploited opportunities, new ways should be sought to expand and intensify cooperation, such as joint production, establishment of joint enterprises, and the like.

The economies of the SR of Serbia and the USSR are particularly interested in joint investment and development of high technology and modern equipment as the foundations for a long-term and more stable cooperation. In this respect it is important to develop as direct

links and cooperation as possible among economic enterprises, with a full regard for economic interests and motives, as well as for the trends in the world market.

The hosts briefed the distinguished guest on the activities that the LC of Serbia is conducting within the LCY to implement the congress decisions and solve current problems involving changes in the economic and political system. In connection with the implementation of the leading role of the LC in society, they talked about the efforts of the LC of Serbia in the field of democratizing political relations and strengthening the responsibility of all subjects in society, and increasing the efficiency in the functioning of the system of self-managing and state organs.

Mutual satisfaction was expressed at the high level of development and breadth of cooperation in the fields of science, education, culture, and sports between the two countries, in which the participation of the SR of Serbia is significant.

The opportunities and requirements were pointed out in the further advancement of cooperation and comprehensive contacts and links with the RSFSR, with which the SR of Serbia in particular has been successfully cooperating in many fields over several years.

A luncheon was given in honor of the distinguished guest, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and his wife Raisa. Slobodan Milosevic, president of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the LC of Serbia, and Mikhail Gorbachev exchanged toasts.

Belgrade Radio on Visit

AU192037 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 19 Mar 88

[Text] We have prepared a commentary on the official friendly visit by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. Branislav Canak speaks about the importance of this visit:

Mikhail Gorbachev's talks with the highest Yugoslav state and party leaders and his meetings with the leaders of Serbia, Slovenia, and Croatia, as well as the results of the visit, have fully met expectations. Gorbachev's visit, which was viewed in advance as very important, is already cause for satisfaction on both sides. Just under 100 hours of Gorbachev's visit to Yugoslavia were fully filled with a rich and substantive program of political meetings with Yugoslav leaders as well as with workers and with citizens in the streets of our cities.

In addition to the official assessments, the declaration on Yugoslav-Soviet relations signed [potpisana] in Belgrade 2 days ago speaks best about the results and the importance of the visit. This document constitutes above all the rounding-up of a historical period into a whole, so that the prospects of future relations may be built on the supporting pillars of this whole.

The declaration did not simply take over the principles contained in the Belgrade Declaration and the Moscow Statement. In fact their signatories insist on the lasting and universal value of these principles, recalling the role these principles played in the restoration and subsequent building of relations after the 1948 break.

In this respect the similarity of this document to the preceding two is undeniable, but a careful reading brings out an essential difference that seems to separate two eras. The new declaration—free of ideological formulations and sentence constructions, which previously served to prove as painlessly as possible something that had already been proven—fully reflects the time in which it has arisen. It is pragmatic, but not apolitical; rational, but not without optimism; systematic, but not exclusive. It depicts the modern world, offering at once an answer and an alternative for the future.

Although it contains the spirit of the history of the Yugoslav and Soviet peoples, and of the LCY and the CPSU, it is open in its messages to all others. Precisely the principles taken over from the preceding two documents help it greatly in this respect. It was not without reason that it was stressed by both sides on several occasions during the visit that these principles have in the meantime become a part of the international heritage of the culture of political agreement among similar, but also different, positions in all spheres of human activities.

This document also provides very convincing evidence that two countries with different international positions may agree to such an extent on key problems of world relations. If universal values of mankind are set as goals, and if the roles in implementing them are equally distributed among all, there is no reason for a big bloc country and a small nonaligned country to be located on different sides.

Something similar applies to the relations in the workers and progressive movements. When nobody pretends to the throne of socialism, fenced in as one entity [uokviren u jednu celinu], or offers his truth to others as something absolute, a democratic dialogue arises logically, as does a wish for an exchange of experiences whose various forms ennoble and strengthen the struggle for socialism as a historical process.

The Yugoslav leaders' talks with Mikhail Gorbachev were coached in a similar manner. Therefore, the results achieved and the optimism regarding the future of relations are not surprising. The spirit of the declaration also radiated from Gorbachev's speech in the SFRY Assembly, and for that reason and because of some views on current international problems, the speech met with considerable reverberations throughout the world.

Special attention was attracted by Gorbachev's offer to reduce tension and the presence of naval ships of the two superpowers in the Mediterranean region. However, those to whom the offer was addressed—the United States—have not yet made their position known. This will probably be an additional topic during the meeting between foreign ministers Shultz and Shevardnadze next week, particularly since the offer in fact concerns the creation of a more favorable atmosphere for solving a hotbed of crisis—the Middle East, which is a regular point on the agenda of the meetings of the two ministers.

It may be said now that this offer would bring the Mediterranean countries closer to the possibility of solving, without direct outside pressure, the tensions that abound in the region.

Although no special significance was attached to it, it should be noted that along with the top-level meetings, very important talks were conducted by the members of the delegations on specific questions connected with the advancement of economic cooperation between the two countries. In addition to the long-term agreement on cooperation until the year 2000 that was signed during the visit, many specific provisions were agreed on, as has been learned, and their implementation should follow very soon. In this way, some unfavorable traits in trade resulting from a certain stagnation in the development of economic cooperation would be eliminated. The provisions that are satisfactory to both sides at present will be discussed once again in particular detail during the forthcoming visit of Soviet premier Nikolay Ryzhkov to Yugoslavia.

To conclude—the visit by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Yugoslavia will contribute to a considerable advancement of overall relations between the two countries and will preserve the quality imparted to these relations by friendship built on tested foundations. This is also where their future lies.

Zagreb Radio on Declaration

LD191732 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 19 Mar 88

[Text] The friendly official visit by CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev to Yugoslavia has put our country for the past days in the center of attention of the world public. Although the results of the visit will still be analyzed for a long time we can already say that it has produced mutual satisfaction. Here is a commentary by Zrnka Novak:

[Novak] From the first commentaries, only a day after Mikhail Gorbachev's departure from our country, it is on the whole difficult to see all shades of the new quality of Yugoslav-Soviet relations that is permanently built into the principles of the new Yugoslav-Soviet declaration, the main political document adopted during the visit. We can, however, say that this document represents a complete affirmation of principles of bilateral interstate and party relations, as well as economic relations, and mutual views on the international situation, global problems, relations between progressive and communist parties, and problems of socialism in the world and is an affirmation of principles that our country, and especially the LCY, advocated even in those distant years of 1955 and 1956. After all, it is not surprising that during the visit Mikhail Gorbachev several times said that the principles of the documents of those years were and remain a meaningful basis of the new declaration, thus giving recognition not only to the consistency of Yugoslav foreign policy but also to the vision of the prime movers of normalization in 1955 and 1956—Josip Broz Tito and Nikita Khrushchev.

However, the new declaration also contains many new elements that now originate, on the one hand, from the new spirit of the Soviet policy and perestroyka and, on the other, from objectively new processes and circumstances in the contemporary world. This especially applies to the principles of diverse path to socialism, the revolutionary reformist vitality of socialism, self-management as the only choice for a more democratic world of labor and relations, as well as to the views on the dominant processes of our times, peace, disarmament, crises and hotbeds and economic inequality; or to the last few paragraphs that deal with the need of democratization of international policy, human rights, and protection of environment. It can be said, therefore, without exaggeration that the Yugoslav-Soviet declaration is a visionary text directed in the best possible manner to the future. However, even though this is the main political document adopted during the visit by the general secretary of the Soviet party, which has aroused great curiosity in the world, it is only part of what has been achieved by the results of Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to Yugoslavia.

In this first reaction, it would be good to point out that Mikhail Gorbachev, with the style in which he presented himself on the international political scene, and in the best possible way, while speaking in the SFRY assembly, also put forward some new Soviet initiatives in the further process of gradual reduction in the arms arsenal. This above all concerns proposals to reduce tension in the Mediterranean and to cut the number of warships, as well as to control their movements and maneuvers. It must also be said that in Belgrade Mikhail Gorbachev gave the most complete up-to-date assessment and recognition of the role of the nonaligned movement, as well as the Soviet view on Balkan problems.

So, we can be mutually pleased with the results of the visit, although it will still be necessary to wait a while as regards the concrete application of the new quality of mutual relations and other results of the visit. Some ideas, perhaps, will also have to be clarified. Let us say in conclusion that wherever Gorbachev went he won them over with the directness of his personality, but also and above all with the knowledge of everything that he, as the head of a new team in the leadership of the Soviet party

and state, has undertaken in the Soviet Union, thus also directly assisting the chances of socialism as a world process. As we said at the beginning, the results of this important visit must still be carefully analyzed.

Zairean President Arrives in Dubrovnik

LD191736 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1532 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 18 Mar (TANJUG)—President Mobutu Sese Seko of the Republic of Zaire, accompanied by his wife, arrived at Dubrovnik airport this afternoon. President Mobutu will stay in Igalo for a short rest. After his rest, President Mobutu will pay an official and friendly visit to our country from 31 March to 2 April at the invitation of the SFRY Presidency.

At Cilipi Airport, the Zairean head of state was welcomed and cordially greeted by Radivoje Brajovic, president of the Presidency of the SR of Montenegro, and by Tibor Salma, a member of the FEC and chairman of the Joint Committee for Cooperation with Zaire.

Final Round of Economic Talks Held With Cuba

LD202149 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1949 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Belgrade, 20 March (TANJUG)—A final round of Yugoslav-Cuban economic talks was held today in Belgrade. Both sides assessed that the visit by the Cuban delegation and the talks held will contribute to the further development and advancement of economic cooperation between the two countries, particularly by increasing trade in both directions, industrial cooperation, the transfer of technology, joint investments and a common approach to other markets. The Cuban delegation was led by Jose Lopez Moreno, vice chairman of the Cuban Council of Ministers, and the Yugoslav one by Milos Milosavljevic, vice president of the FEC.

Algerian Paper Interviews LCY's Loncar

PM151526 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 11-12 Mar 88 p 9

[Interview with Budimir Loncar, LCY federal secretary for foreign affairs, by "R.I." in Algiers—date not given]

[Text] Political and economic relations between Algeria and Yugoslavia, security and cooperation among all Mediterranean countries, the role of the Mediterranean nonaligned countries in peace in the region, and the impact of the Balkan countries' conference that has just been held in Belgrade, were the main subjects of the interview that Budimir Loncar, Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs, granted to EL MOUDJAHID shortly before his departure from Algiers.

Algeria's guest reaffirmed the excellent nature of political relations between Algeria and Yugoslavia, which can be seen in the agreement which exists on virtually all international problems. For instance, economic relations reflect these political affinities and the consolidation of bilateral relations. "Our economic relations are developing and have reached a fairly advanced stage in several spheres. Cooperation is fairly fruitful although trade is at a lower level. We now have new options and prospects.

"We are now interested in importing Algerian gas and in concluding long-term agreements in this sphere. We are prepared to have a presence in several spheres of Algerian economic development. We both want to base our cooperation on broader foundations, although Algeria and Yugoslavia have started to restructure their respective economies."

With regard to the promotion of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean, Budimir Loncar spoke first of the results of the Brioni conference. Some time ago, Yugoslavia hosted a ministerial meeting of nonaligned Mediterranean countries. As the host country, it was asked by the conference to establish initial contacts with the other partners to revive dialogue on these sensitive questions of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean basin. "Such a conference is itself a positive event and a source of satisfaction. It enabled us to extend relations and cooperation among the Mediterranean nonaligned countries, and this is already a stabilizing factor in the region. We are still aware that this approach can only be one stage and that it is necessary to consolidate it in the future. We have informed the CSCE members and sent messages to the great powers that have fleets in the Mediterranean. We have also had a broad exchange of views with the other Mediterranean countries like Turkey, Greece, Italy, Spain, and France.

"We have also informed the EEC Commission. In general, reactions have been positive. On the USSR's behalf, Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze expressed his understanding of the demands of the Mediterranean nonaligned countries. We also believe that U.S. Secretary of State Shultz is preparing his reply. And the EEC has given a positive response through Mr Cheysson. We concluded that it is necessary to establish cooperation among all the Mediterranean countries and have planned a foreign ministers' meeting to this end. Opportunities for promoting this cooperation exist, particularly in the sphere of tourism and transportation. A meeting of Mediterranean nonaligned countries will be held in Algiers next year, and this will certainly bring us closer to our objectives in the sphere of security and cooperation for our region."

The new impetus that now characterizes the Maghreb situation and that is aimed at building the Greater Arab Maghreb, and the Balkan countries' conference that has just been held in Belgrade, also open up favorable prospects for stability, security, and cooperation in the Mediterranean basin. Budimir Loncar agreed with this and linked the two, stressing that the building of this Maghreb is an important stabilizing factor in the Mediterranean. This is also true of the cooperation among the six Balkan countries, four of which are Mediterranean

countries. "The Balkan countries' conference," he said, "aimed to extend the level of understanding and confidence, and to launch the process of multilateral cooperation. This objective has been attained and should be placed in the context of security and stability in the Mediterranean region. Our viewpoint is that Europe and the Mediterranean are interdependent with regard to security and stability."

He listed the three possible and complementary conditions for achieving real international security and cooperation: the strengthening of the great UN principles and systems, detente between the blocs and superpowers, and regional cooperation and consultation to consolidate mutual confidence and understanding and to settle conflicts by peaceful means.

Army Affected by Shortage of Federal Money

AU181101 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 15 Mar 88 p 1

[J. Kesic report: "The Budget Also Owed Money"]

[Text] Belgrade, 14 Mar—The federal budget had tremendous difficulties during the first 2 months of this year in fulfilling its obligations to the spending departments. This is because the source revenue was significantly lower than planned, and because the contributions by the republics and provinces were low. Because of the irregular inflow of money, the federal budget did not meet a number of its obligations. The worst affected was the Yugoslav People's Army [YPA], which did not receive even half of the planned funds for January and February. This is why the army could not meet its obligations to domestic and foreign suppliers, could not pay personal incomes to its employees, or repay its loans to the National Bank of Yugoslavia.

The report on the fulfillment of this year's budget that the FEC submitted to the SFRY Assembly states that because of the unenviable situation that it has found itself in, the YPA get to raise a short-term loan of 160 billion dinars from the National Bank of Yugoslavia. The army received 288.6 billion dinars from the federal budget through 26 February. On the same date its outstanding debts amounted to 211.2 billion dinars, 96.8 billion dinars were owed to domestic suppliers and 114.4 billion dinars to foreign suppliers for delivered arms and equipment.

In addition to this debt, the army was supposed to provide 360 million dinars—140 million dinars for the repayment of a loan to the National Bank of Yugoslavia, and 220 million dinars for its financing during that month. This means that by the end of March, the federal budget should provide 571.2 billion dinars for the army. It is estimated, however, that the federal budget will not be able to provide these funds and that at the end of March it will be 152.2 billion dinars short. This problem could be solved by getting a short-term loan of 150 billion dinars from the National Bank of Yugoslavia, or by issuing federal bonds worth 300 billion dinars.

Because of the lack of money, other spending departments were also left short. Military and disability pensions were paid out by borrowing money from the Post Office Savings Bank, and beneficial pensions were paid by the republican and provincial self-interest communities whom the federal budget will reimburse later. Undeveloped republics, the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, and all federal reserves also received their money with a delay. Obligations to the organs and organizations of the federation are not being settled as planned that causes problems in their normal work at home and abroad.

Editor Criticized for Remarks on Slovenia

LD201554 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1241 GMT 20 Mar 88

[Text] Novi Sad, 20 Mar (TANJUG)—Statements by Robert Boteraj, chief editor of MLADINA, and Milan Kucpan, president of the Central Committee Presidium of the LC of Slovenia, confirm that it is not absurd to talk about a split in Slovenia, says today's issue of the Novi Sad DNEVNIK. The paper notes "that recently the events in Slovenia have been following one another with great rapidity. What was said yesterday is no longer valid today. Every day brings some important political statement, some new hint of drama. Under the cloak of democracy and public confrontation of diverse political views and concepts, sharp political and ideological polarizations occur of which previously one could have had but an inkling."

"Boteraj's statement that democratic elections will soon be held in Slovenia, and that it was not the party that had been instrumental in this but MLADINA that had forced the elections must be described as a kind of throwing a gauntlet to Kucan and the Slovene party leadership, says DNEVNIK. ... [TANJUG ellipsis] This seems to have overstepped the mark of tolerance."

DNEVNIK notes that in the wake of this statement, there followed a reaction that was more vehement and to the point that those who know the situation in Slovenia could have expected. The leader of Slovene Communists, speaking of MLADINA and other attacks on the JNA [Yugoslav People's Army] and other Yugoslav values and institutions, was explicit:

"I am against this kind of dialogue, and everyone should be against it. This is not a dialogue, it is struggle for power. These are discussions that are diverting Yugoslavia's attention from essential issues."

DNEVNIK notes that until recently "hardly anyone in Slovenia, with the exception of the war veterans, officers, and reserve officers, took seriously the warnings from

other parts of the country that the attacks on the army mean nothing else but an attack on the basic revolutionary values, on the foundations of Tito's Yugoslavia."

Only when the political groups around MLADINA and NOVA REVIJA made it obvious to everyone that they did not shrink from open attacks on top Slovene leaders and political forums did it become clear to Kucan and others that the "joke had gone too far" and that the "children had moved into an open and relentless struggle for power." Yesterday they attacked Mikulic and Mamula, but today they are attacking Kucan and Smole. Yesterday they advocated the democratization of society, today they have already negated the leading role of the LC. Yesterday it was a struggle for dialogue, today it is a struggle for power. Obviously, what we are witnessing is a well-tried scenario of political settling of accounts, says the Novi Sad DNEVNIK in today's issue. The paper notes that "Kucan's words encourage and one can rightly expect more initiative and resolve on the part of Slovene Communists."

Albanian Nationalists Sentenced to Prison
LD181841 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1644 GMT 18 Mar 88

[Text] Pristina, 18 Mar (TANJUG)—Sentences of between 6 months and 6 years in prison were given in the Pristina District Court today on a group of Albanian nationalists and separatists known as the "Young Heroes of Kosovo."

It was established at the court hearing that this illegal group was formed in Pristina in 1981, and that its members disseminated leaflets, wrote hostile slogans, and came to agreement on separatist activity.

The first accused, Ibus Lapastica, was sentenced to 6 years; and Ali Seholi, Mirhidin Idrizi, and Tefik Gasi to 5 years' imprisonment each. Rukija Selimi and Ragip Djaka were sentenced to 3 years, and Bedri Salja to 6 months' imprisonment.

The deputy district public prosecutor dropped the suit against Naser Bektesi and Fadilj Redzepi, while the court freed Serif Vrajoli and Naser Hasani for lack of evidence.